

Lebanon Township Environmental & Open Space Commission

Agenda

May 6th, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

In compliance with the "Open Public Meetings Act", notice has been given that the Lebanon Township Environmental and Open Space Commission conducts its regular business meetings on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 PM in the main meeting room of the municipal building. Notice of this meeting was published in the Hunterdon County Democrat and the monthly agendas are posted on the bulletin board of the municipal building.

AGENDA

Topic	Intent/Materials
Kickoff, Roll Call & Connecting Moment	Call meeting to order and take roll call.
Presentation of Minutes	Review and approval of April Meeting Minutes. All commission members can approve except for Mr. Newman who was not present at the April meeting.
Old Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Tewksbury Township deer management ordinance (Duckworth)b) May 11th museum event (Duckworth)c) Open space boundary signage (Duckworth)d) Well testing reminder (Koch)
New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Michael Chen EOSC nomination and associated reorganizationb) NJWSA ash tree survey; Nicholson last week, Schaaf this week
Newsletter	Summer newsletter deadline is May 1 st . Articles on the docket include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recycling Best Practices (Laul)• Tick Article (Petzinger)
Correspondence	Acknowledge and share any formal correspondence received by EOSC chair or informal correspondence received by EOSC members. All correspondence when possible is scanned and stored digitally in a public access Google Drive folder at https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B14m3wFylheUWjBjNEkwalU4TGc . <ul style="list-style-type: none">• None

Lebanon Township Environmental & Open Space Commission

Minutes

May 6th, 2019

ROLL CALL

EOSC Member	Role	Attendance
Adam Duckworth	Chairman, Planning Board Liaison	X
Sharon Petzinger	Member	X
Warren Newman	Member	No
Erik Jan Henriksen	Member	X
Nancy Lawler	Member	X
Sharon Hardy	Member	X
(Vacant)	Member	N/A
Kathy Koch	Alternate 1	X
Marty Collett	Alternate 2	X

MEETING MINUTES

Topic	Intent/Materials
Kickoff, Roll Call & Connecting Moment	<p>Call meeting to order and take roll call.</p> <p>Minutes: The meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm. In addition to the EOSC members noted above, Mayor Schmidt was in attendance, as well as three Highlands Council representatives.</p>
Presentation of Minutes	<p>Review and approval of April Meeting Minutes. All commission members can approve except for Mr. Newman who was not present at the April meeting.</p> <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth asked if there were any comments on the Meeting Minutes from April. There were none and he asked for a motion to approve them. Mr. Henriksen made the motion, it was seconded by Ms. Lawler and unanimously approved.</p>
Old Business	<p>e) Tewksbury Township deer management ordinance (Duckworth)</p> <p>f) May 11th museum event (Duckworth)</p> <p>g) Open space boundary signage (Duckworth)</p> <p>h) Well testing reminder (Koch)</p> <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth acknowledged the Highlands Council representatives and invited them to speak first so they would not have to sit through the full agenda. He asked Ms. Lawler to provide some background on why she invited them to our meeting. Ms. Lawler stated that because we are in conformance with the Highlands Plan, we are eligible for grant opportunities; she invited Ms. Green and her colleagues to educate us on what opportunities are available.</p> <p>Two of the Highlands Council representatives introduced themselves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keri Green, Science Manager • Judy Thornton, Lead Principal Planner and Lebanon Township Liaison • Drew Siglin, Regional Planner and Open Space/TDR Coordinator <p>Additional background information can be found on the Highlands Council website staffing page.</p> <p>Keri and Judy stated that our Township has opportunities for funding through an existing grant contract and can be used towards any project that supports the regional master plan. This includes funding for resource management plans. Mr. Duckworth asked if the Highlands Council</p>

Topic	Intent/Materials
	<p>recommended any priority focus areas. Ms. Green stated that forest stewardship and management, habitat management and planning, agriculture planning and stormwater outfall mapping, which the Township required to do by 2020, are priority areas. Ms. Green reiterated that funding can only be used for planning initiatives, not implementation, but she encouraged us to include implementation planning and grant research as part of any application.</p> <p>Ms. Lawler provided background on the Bunnvale ponding issue and previous work we had done in that area. Ms. Green stated that Rutgers does good work impervious surface management plan development. Ms. Thornton stated that a grant from the Highlands Council could potentially fund a study to analyze the problem. Ms. Green stated she would send along the Rutgers information.</p> <p>Ms. Petzinger asked if the forest stewardship aspect applied to public lands only or also included private lands? Ms. Green stated that the easiest route would be to start with public lands. A question was asked about deer management and the Highlands Council representatives said that deer management could be viewed as a component of both forest management and habitat management.</p> <p>Ms. Green stated that Lebanon Township's plan conformance details can be found online, along with an overview on grant programs.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth and the EOSC members thanked the Highlands Council representatives for their time. He asked the EOSC members to review the grant information and be prepared to discuss ideas at the next meeting.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth moved on to the next topic of the Township deer management ordinance. He reminded the team that at the last meeting he took an action to do an analysis of our properties to determine approximately how many hunters could benefit if hunting were permitted on Township open space. Mr. Duckworth stated that he summed up the total acreage of our larger parcels as per below and total acreage was ~191 acres.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nicholson 1 (Block 49, Lot 89.01) 42 Acres • Nicholson 2 (Block 49, Lot 89.02) 15 Acres • Fisher (Block 49, Lot 4.02) 57 Acres • Schaaf (Block 24, Lot 2) 67 Acres • Red Mill Race Preserve (Block 35, Lot 88) 10 Acres <p>He stated that the County allows approximately one hunter per 30 acres but that includes firearm hunting. He acknowledged that the team had already talked about restricting the Township hunting program to bow only. Considering this, we could allow for one hunter per 10 acres and support 15-20 hunters via the 191 acres of open space noted above. It would be dependent upon a more detailed analysis of lot configuration and nearby structures that could be done later. The team discussed this and agreed that this was a sufficient number of hunters to make pursuit of a controlled hunting program feasible.</p> <p>Mayor Schmidt suggested we look at our full list of open space and confirm if there are other properties we would want to include.</p> <p>Mr. Chen stated that he spoke with a representative from the Quality Deer Management Association (QDMA) and was told that insurance could be provided as part of the hunting permit application process. It would be fairly inexpensive, like \$5 additional on top of the permit fee. This would guarantee that any hunter has the appropriate insurance coverage and make it easy for prospective hunters who didn't already have insurance to obtain it. The question was asked if this could be optional for those hunters who already had insurance and could provide the appropriate paperwork. Mayor Schmidt stated that it would be easier for the Township if it was all part of the application process so that the police department wouldn't have to do extra work to collect and review various insurance paperwork.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth said he would prepare a motion for the next meeting to demonstrate EOSC support of the program. Mayor Schmidt stated that Committeeman Laul could review the</p>

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	<p>proposal with Police Chief Gale as a next step.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth reminded the team that he and Mr. Collett would be volunteering at the “Bee Nice to Mom” event at the Township museum on Saturday. Others were welcome to join.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth said he has made no progress on the open space boundary signage.</p>
New Business	<p>c) Michael Chen EOSC nomination and associated reorganization d) NJWSA ash tree survey; Nicholson last week, Schaaf this week</p> <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth reminded the team that there is an open vacancy since Mr. Mickley resigned at the previous meeting. He stated that Mr. Chen is seeking to join the EOSC and asked Mr. Chen to introduce himself and share why he is interested in volunteering. Mr. Chen stated that he has an interest in getting involved in the community and has interests in the outdoors, trail-building and hunting. He also stated that he has a degree in Environmental Planning & Design and owns his own environmental company, Independence Constructors.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth stated that Mr. Chen would join as Alternate 2, Mr. Collett would move to Alternate 1 and Ms. Koch would move to the vacant full member slot. Ms. Koch and Mr. Collett stated that is fine with them.</p> <p>Although not required since EOSC membership is decided through mayoral appointment, Mr. Duckworth asked for a motion to support Mr. Chen’s application for EOSC as alternate 2, and Mr. Collett’s and Ms. Koch’s escalation to Alternate 1 and full membership, respectively.</p> <p>Mr. Henriksen made the motion, Ms. Lawler seconded and it was unanimously approved.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth said he would send a note to Ms. Sandorse and Committeeman Laul so this would be brought to Township Committee for approval.</p>
Newsletter	<p>Summer newsletter deadline is May 1st. Articles on the docket include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling Best Practices (Laul) • Tick Article (Petzinger) <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth stated that the deadline for the summer newsletter had passed. Ms. Petzinger said she had submitted an article on ticks. She also asked if the team was interested in her doing another bird survey as it was that time of year. The team discussed this and decided that the Fisher/Nicholson property would be the priority.</p>

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Correspondence	<p>Acknowledge and share any formal correspondence received by EOSC chair or informal correspondence received by EOSC members. All correspondence when possible is scanned and stored digitally in a public access Google Drive folder at https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B14m3wFylheUWjBjNEkwalU4TGc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None <p>Minutes: Mr. Duckworth stated he had received no correspondence and asked if anyone else had. No one did. He proceeded around the table to ask each member if they had any other topics to discuss.</p> <p>Mayor Schmidt stated that the Whitehall Preservation opportunity received full support from Township Committee. We should expect to hear a decision in August and would receive funding in 2020 if our project was chosen.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth asked about the Buffalo Hollow property. Mayor Schmidt said that he has hear rumors that Jeep Newman has accepted a price and the transaction is proceeding. He also stated that the Denton property is progressing and there is positive progress on the County securing trail access across Camp Bernie.</p> <p>Ms. Lawler stated that the MRMC passed a motion in support of the interpretive settlement at Squire's Point.</p> <p>Ms. Hardy stated that she had a great conversation with Vi regarding the Goracy connection to Miquin Woods, but the ball is in her court to meet with the lawyer and sign the contract.</p> <p>Ms. Koch said she has been doing a great deal of research on Hoffmans Crossing and provided a number of details on the history of the properties in that area.</p> <p>Mr. Duckworth asked for a motion to close the meeting at 8:40 pm. The motion was made by Ms. Petzinger, seconded by Ms. Koch and unanimously approved.</p>