

Minutes of the Andover Township Environmental Commission
Meeting held January 14, 2021 a 6:00PM via Zoom

Chair Dr. Josh Osowski called the meeting to order.

Roll Call:

Dr. Josh Osowski, Chair
Janis McGovern, Township Committee Liaison
Suzanne Howell, Land Use Board Liaison
Eric Olsen
Ray Wexler
Christine Kretzmer, absent
Brenda Izzo, Alternate, absent
Recreation Liaison – to be determined

Flag Salute

Chair Osowski read the Open Public Meeting Act: This meeting complies with Chapter 231, P.L. 195, with adequate notice having been posted.

Chair Osowski read the Environmental Commission Mission Statement.

The agenda for the meeting was adopted without changes.

Public Portion:

Diane Gillespie came forward and advised that the task calendar hadn't been updated and should she do it. Answer, yes, and then pass it on to Chair Osowski.
Diane expressed a hope that the EC would accomplish the tasks on the calendar.
No further Public coming forward, the Chair closed to the Public.

Old Business:

Open Space Plan:

Eric Olsen said the next step is to get the RFD out for bid. He asked for assistance with the legal wording. Janis McGovern said she would help him get in touch with Twp Attorney Fred Semrau for same. Eric went over the process and there was discussion should there be soliciting sessions with the public regarding desired changes to the plan, this could be done via Zoom, should Farmland Preservation be retained in the plan, should there be an Historic Resources inventory. Janis asked if Eric and Josh would be able to attend a February Twp Comm meeting to present plans, they said yes. Eric hopes that the re-exam can be done by the end of 2021. Diane Gillespie pointed out that the EC should check the OS Ordinance to see if the EC can make changes without public say so.

Hillside Park Walking Path:

Sue Howell said that the Twp Comm had approved \$5K for Cory Stoner's services. This would include engineering and cost estimates. We have also asked him to scope out the Park for a possible Bocci court. Janis said she would check with Cory to see what his timeline is on this project.

Lakeside Nature Park:

Janis said that Darren was working on the gates for better appearance. The Commission discussed the types of signage we want – routed lettering was favored. Eric suggested instead of wood using _____. Sue suggested the sign has to be seen from both directions. Josh said he would have some ideas/samples for signs at the next meeting.

New Business:

Secretary - Sue Howell volunteered to take minutes of the meetings.

Commission Vacancies:

One full time member is needed. Janis said that she offered the position to alternate Brenda Izzo, but Brenda prefers to remain an alternate. Josh asked Patti Busslow for assistance in posting the position on the Twp website and social media.

ANJEC Dues:

A motion was made by Ray, seconded by Eric to pay the dues, with no further conversation the motion was carried.

Josh noted that there's a meeting on 1-27-2021 going over changes, Storm regulations one of the topics.

2021 Goals:

Complete: Hillside Park walking path; Signage and Gates at Lakeside Nature Park

Official opening of the Andover Loop – have the loop polished/groomed. Maybe benches at lookout points. Directional signage. Possible bridge to get across the stream near the parking lot. Kiosks at the ends of the trails.

(Mention of the decorated tree – how cool was that)

The Hemlock Ave landfill was brought up. Josh to reach out to Green Acres re same.

Eric told the EC about a couple **NAMES??** living in Lake Lenape who are inventorying the Hemlock Ave Landfill area. There are Indian trails, markers etc. Very interesting and we would like to invite them to a future meeting to share their discoveries.

Ray asked if Green Acres (or the State) would purchase the PSE&G property?

Liaison Updates:

Land Use Board:

Sue advised that the BHT application has been moved to a meeting in March. At this time the meeting will most likely be held at Perona Farms and will be a hybrid. That's subject to change depending upon what State guidelines are in force for COVID at the time of the meeting. She said that the LUB had their re-org meeting on 1-5-2021. Hoping to do a full Master Plan re-examination, will be working on a Cannabis ordinance, and a Food Truck ordinance.

Township Committee:

Janis McGovern

Sustainable Andover:

Eric advised the Buy Local Guide is done! He will email a copy to the members. They are working out how to best promote it, and where to have it available. (FB, Instagram, Twp website)
Actions? Certification?

With no other business to discuss a motion was made by Sue Howell, seconded by Eric Olsen and passed with everyone saying aye. Meeting ended at 7:25PM.