

# Minutes of the Andover Township Environmental Commission Meeting held May 13, 2021 at 6:00PM VIA ZOOM

Chair Dr. Josh Osowski called the meeting to order at 6:04PM and read the Environmental Commission Mission Statement.

## Roll Call:

Dr. Josh Osowski, Chair – Present  
Mayor Janis McGovern, Township Committee Liaison – Present  
Suzanne Howell, Land Use Board Liaison – Present  
Eric Olsen, Sustainable Andover Liaison and Member – Present  
Ray Wexler, Member – Present  
Christine Kretzmer, Member – Absent  
Brenda Izzo, Recreation Liaison, Alternate – Present

## Flag Salute

**Mission Statement:** Chair Osowski read the Environmental Commission Mission Statement into the record.

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

**Adoption of the Agenda:** A motion to adopt the agenda was made by Janis McGovern, seconded by Ray Wexler, and approved with all members saying Aye.

**Approval of Minutes of the 4-8-2021 EC Meeting:** A motion to approve made by Ray Wexler, seconded by Eric Olsen, and approved with all members saying Aye.

**Open to the Public:** Diane Gillespie advised there are Sunflower seeds available should anyone want some.

## Old Business:

- **Open Space Plan Update:** Josh Osowski advised that the EC had received three bids for the Update. After consideration by the sub-committee (Osowski, Howell & Wexler) the consensus was to award the bid to H2M Architects & Engineers out of Parsippany, NJ. There was a short discussion amongst Commission members, questions about length of time for the report, public engagement, easy to read graphics were some topics discussed. A motion was made by Suzanne Howell, and seconded by Ray Wexler that H2M be awarded the contract. With no further discussion the motion was passed. The information will be sent to Ms. Bussow to put on the Township Committee agenda for approval.
- **Lakeside Nature Park Signs:** The signage has been approved by the Township Committee.
- **Andover Loop:** The loop opening will not make the June Trail date, and will be considered for a Fall opening. There was discussion about more signage on the trails (blazes, mileage to different points on the trail, etc.).
- **Hillside Walking Path:** Suzanne Howell said she would speak with Cory Stoner about scaling back the project as the scope had become larger than originally anticipated.

**Liaison Reports:**

- **Land Use Board:** At that time of this meeting there were no applications or hearings scheduled. There will be an in-person meeting on 6-4-2021 at The Barn to present the Redevelopment Study. Funds have been approved to update the Master Plan.
- **Township Committee:** Mayor Janis McGovern advised that the signage for Lakeside Park, Hillside Park and the ballfield had been approved.
- **Sustainable Andover:** Eric Olsen advised that the April meeting had been cancelled. He said they will be moving forward for NJ Bronze certification. He also mentioned that SAGE is up and running and there may be a farm stand out front at some point this summer.

**New Business:**

- **Green Acres applications:** This is being tabled for the time being. We have to review the rules/regulations so we are able to submit an application.
- Ray Wexler asked about the soil that is being spread on or around the Abby grounds and has concerns about the amount, the lack of soil fencing and where it might be coming from.

**Adjournment:** There being no other business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting and passed with all members saying Aye. The meeting ended at 7:15PM.