

**Clinton Township Environmental Commission (CTEC)**

Thursday, May 4, 2023  
1370 Route 31 North, Annandale, NJ 08801 (In-person); WebEx Meeting  
Meeting Minutes

<b>Attendees</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mario Caballero, Chair</li><li>• Geoff Varty, Vice Chair</li><li>• Sandra (Sandy) Millward</li><li>• Doug Pecota</li><li>• Danielle Kearsley</li><li>• Michael Lennick</li><li>• Robert Parkanyi, Alternate #1</li><li>• Sandra Butcher, PB Liaison</li><li>• Amy Switlyk, Council</li></ul>	<b>Apologies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Allison Wheelan, Watershed Ambassador</li></ul>
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Meeting commenced at 7:02 pm

**Open to Public**  
**None**

**Approve minutes**

- April Meeting Motion by RP 2<sup>nd</sup> by SM – No Objections

**Correspondence**

- Payment of the ANJEC \$400 bill is in process.
- Email from the NJ DEP related to Hunterdon County renewing the transfer station permit – no objections.
- Email from Amy Greene from the Raritan Township EC asking for our support of bills S2186 and A3677 which “Prohibits sale, distribution, or propagation of certain invasive plant species without permit from Department of Agriculture; establishes NJ Invasive Species Council” through committee in a timeframe and strategy that it will be enacted into law this session. She is asking for us to request the council to pass a resolution (draft provided) in support of this legislation. The Town of Clinton and High Bridge already passed resolution. Township council provided draft.
- Motion by DP, Seconded by SM – no objections

The County is considering the privatization of transfer station. The public will have 2 opportunities at public sessions to provide feedback before there is a vote by the Board of County Commissioners. MC will be providing additional info.

<https://www.tapinto.net/towns/flemington-slash-raritan/sections/government/articles/hunterdon-county-to-sell-clinton-transfer-station-to-private-company>

## Reports

### ● Council (AS)

- Budget was passed
- A resolution to hire a Grant consulting company had passed but has since expired. AS to ask again
- Council has formed a subcommittee of Marc Strauss and Bill Glaser to study allowing Cannabis growing, processing and/or selling in the Township. Public input will be solicited.
- Of the 5 Bird houses placed at Windy Acres, 2 have nests, one has 5 bluebird eggs, other are wrens.
- No Bat house activity has been observed, however, it can take 2 years.

### ● Planning Board (SB)

- Crown Vet application – closed/approved
- Highlands regional master plan review is under review – looking to establish 2 regional areas
- There is no additional information on the 2 site plans have previously been discussed.
- No additional site plans have been brought to the environmental commission

### ● Open Space

- Didn't have a quorum.
- 125 trees planted at Windy Acres.
- Doug – Trailer dumped block 88 lot 1.01.
- More signs like curb your dog are coming.
- No longer considering buying property at Allerton Rd and Route 31.
- MC mentioned that The Highlands Council has released a new standard that prevents warehouses to be built in many areas (Highlands Protection Zone, Wildlife Management Sub-Zone, Highlands Conservation Zone, and Conservation Zone Environmentally Constrained Sub-Zone), including the Exxon property
  - <https://www.njspotlightnews.org/2023/04/highlands-council-in-nj-sets-first-regional-curbs-on-warehouses/>
- Birding for Beginners will take place on 5/13 at 1-2:30 in Windy acres.

### ● Green Team (MC)

- Green Fair & EV Car Show Town of Clinton and High Bridge joint venture 7/8
- Meeting to discuss the NHHS Pollinator Garden (1500 sq ft) will take place 5/8, ANJAC grant is pending.
- All slots for volunteers for the Clinton Twp. Spring Stream Clean up site were filled
- Spring Litter Clean Up event well attended – 40+ people, 1000+ lbs. of garbage collected.
- Next year's Spring cleanup may consider doing state and highway roads, but permits will be required.
- Walkability Study in Annandale Village was attended by approximately 20 people, report is pending.
- Bicycle Study in area surrounding Bundt Park will be from 9am -12pm on 5/13
- EV Charger Installation
  - To be discussed with administrator
- Stream Assessment to be done on 5/6 from 9am to 12pm at Windy Acres. 3 people signed up.
- Buy Fresh Buy Local
  - List of organic stores, farms, CSAs
- Sustainable Jersey Summit Technical Assistance Panel Discussion – MC to be presenting, RP to attend

- Possible project for fall – Bunt Park rain garden

- **Site Plan Review Subcommittee**

No Report

- **Watershed Ambassador**

No Report

### **Old business**

- 2023 PSEG Foundation / Sustainable Jersey \$2k & \$20k grants
  - \$2k grant pollinator garden – If awarded, ceremony to take place 5/22 @ The College of New Jersey
- 2023 Clinton Township Community Day April 29 has been postponed until 9/30
  - The tree order had not yet shipped so it was canceled
- We did not apply for the ANJEC \$1,500 grant

### **New Business**

- Report from Watershed Institute's conference – Danielle
  - Information was sent to the Commission members prior to the meeting and is in the Google Docs drive
  - Utility bill in the future to include charge to handle storm water run off
- Website Updates (MC)
  - Webmaster will have meeting agendas, minutes, and annual reports posted
  - Documents to go to Carla/Lindsay for posting
  - RP to mock up changes to EC Commission site to accommodate documents

### **Next meeting**

- Danielle plans to attend the Northeast Mid Atlantic Forests and Water Forum Field Trip of recent restoration projects at Merrill Creek and Melicks Bridge (in Clinton Twp.) The tour of Melick's will be led by our Watershed Ambassador, Allison Wheelan.
- Danielle will attend the Northeast Mid Atlantic Forests and Water Forum at EPA in Edison, NJ. Danielle will summarize the Forum at the next business meeting.

### **Open to Public**

- None

### **Motion to Adjourn**

- (RP) Seconded by DP @ 8:27pm - No Objections

Next Meeting: Thursday – June 1 2023