

Clinton Township Environmental Commission (CTEC)

Thursday, June 1, 2023
1370 Route 31 North, Annandale, NJ 08801 (In-person); MS Teams Meeting
Meeting Minutes

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

Meeting commenced at 7:02 pm

Open to Public

None

Approve minutes

- May Meeting Motion by MC 2nd by DP– No Objections

Correspondence

- Rehabilitation of Echo Hill Pond
 - MC to send an email asking what they are doing with the fish in the pond. ML to review application document and send MC additional questions/comments.
- DEP letter related to the Highlands Applicability Determination. This project is for the application of herbicides to manage invasive plant species and to encourage growth of native plant species within 18 Wildlife Management Areas owned by the NJDEP Fish & Wildlife.
 - No further comments.

Reports

- **Council (AS via email)**
 - Passed Resolutions: Ban the sale of invasives; Restart grant writing services; Accept \$2,000 grant from Sustainable Jersey.
 - CTSD field trip to Windy Acres
 - Community Garden feedback
 - Beaver Brook hike, June 17, 9 am, Foran Field.
 - Pollinator Planting, June 5, NHHS
- **Planning Board**
 - No report
- **Open Space (DP)**
 - Open Space presented to the council regarding some updates to the deer management program
 - New signs will be installed at Prostack East
 - Volunteers noticed that herbicides were applied on the trail at Hacketts Preserve. Open Space would like to know what is the herbicide being used.
 - The Disc Golf intro was well attended at Cramer's Creek

- Lots of dead ash trees at Beaver Brook/Spring Side
- Open space is doing a Tool inventory
- They are wonder if the open space property of Eaton Court - West of Cramer's Creek should have a name
- Open Space is not pursuing the property by the church.
- **Green Team (MC)**
 - Green Fair & EV Car Show has been renamed "The Highlands Green Fair and EV Car Show" as we are collaborating with the Town of Clinton and High Bridge. Event set for July 8 from 11am to 2pm
 - In addition to 11 EV owners bringing their cars to the First Responder EV Training, Lucid will also participate and will be providing test drives. June 8th.
 - We will be helping the NHHS Environmental Group with the Pollinator Garden on Monday June 5 at 2:30pm. Mario will pick up the plants Monday morning and drop them off. Volunteers welcomed.
 - The Bicycle Study in area surrounding Bundt Park was canceled by GoHunterdon. Looking for other dates.
 - No update on the EV Charger Installation project. Waiting to speak with the Township Administrator.
 - The Stream Assessment on May 6th was successful. We didn't have community members signed up but we had Green Team and EC members. The health of the stream was deemed healthy. A wood turtle was found.
 - No update on the Buy Fresh Buy Local action.
- **Site Plan Review Subcommittee**
No Report
- **Watershed Ambassador**
No Report

Old business

- The 2023 PSEG Foundation / Sustainable Jersey \$2k grants was received during a grant ceremony on May 22nd.

New Business

- Report from Danielle from the Northeast Mid Atlantic Forests and Water Forum Field Trip of recent restoration projects at Merrill Creek and Melicks Bridge (in Clinton Twp.)
 - The Northeast Mid Atlantic Forests and Water Forum is a group of interested parties from Maine to Maryland. Mostly EPA and water-friendly organizations.
 - There were 2 field trips
 - Melick's bridge was showcased.
 - Merrill Creek visit highlighted invasives.
- Report from Danielle from the Northeast Mid Atlantic Forests and Water Forum at EPA in Edison, NJ. Danielle
 - Mostly EPA speakers
 - NJ American Water are doing studies with drones looking for farms where cattle are close to the water that is increasing the crypto levels.
- Cancel August CTEC meeting
 - Motion by MC, 2nd by DP, all in favor.

Next meeting

- MC to meet with DP to do a final round of salt water tests at the 4 sites.

Open to Public

- None

Motion to Adjourn

- Motion by ML, 2nd by DP, all in favor at 8:03pm.

Next Meeting: Thursday – July 6 2023