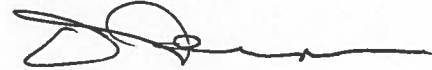


approved 4/8/21



**STANHOPE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

Minutes: Regular Meeting  
March 11, 2021

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** at 7:35PM by Nicole Member with flag salute.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE:** In compliance with the New Jersey Assembly Bill No. 1030, notice for this meeting was sent to the *New Jersey Herald* and the *Daily Record* on January 14, 2021 and was posted on the bulletin board in the municipal building on the same day.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Owen Newson, John Rogalo, Rudy Shlesinger,  
Anthony Riccardi, Nicole Member  
Absent: Mike Balogh

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

February 11, 2021 minutes were approved. Motion made by John Rogalo and seconded by Owen Newson. Abstention: Nicole Member, Anthony Riccardi (MC)

**OPEN PUBLIC DISCUSSION:**

None

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Received:**

3/9/21 Email: ANJEC: 2021 Environmental Commission Grants

**Sent:**

None

Motion to accept the correspondence by John Rogalo and seconded by Anthony Riccardi. (UC)

**CURRENT ACTIVITY:**

**Plaque: Bell's Mansion:**

Owen reported that he presented the plaque of appreciation to Jack of Bell's Mansion at the last council meeting. The presentation went well and a photo was taken with the Mayor, Jack and Owen. Owen stated that he submitted the photo and a press release to the *Township Journal*, however, it did not appear in the paper. EC requested Owen send picture and press release to Brian to be posted on the borough Facebook page.

**2021 ANJEC Grant:**

The EC decided to submit last year's 2020 grant application for trail maintenance, that was denied, again this year. Owen will alert Brian and ask for contacts with borough grant writer *Millenium*. The EC wants to include removal of invasives and the planting of native species in this year's grant.

**RECEIVED**

APR 09 2021

STANHOPE  
BOROUGH

## **CURRENT ACTIVITY (Cont.)**

### **2020 EC Annual Report:**

The annual report was approved with a motion from Nicole Member and a second by John Rogalo. (UC)

### **Clean Communities: 4/25/21**

Nicole stated that there will be a E-cycle and Shred event on Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at DPW. Also, plastic bags will be collected in exchange for a free borough cloth bag. All forms for Clean Communities Day will be online and hard copies available on site.

### **Facebook: Topic for month:**

Jack's Bell's Mansion award: press release and photo.

### **Open Space Plan Committee:**

Anthony stated that he has an upcoming meeting with Brian regarding the Open Space Plan Committee.

### **Trail Maintenance: 11/7/21**

A discussion was held on the increase in the number of trails in NJ State Parks. John stated that soil disturbance created by too many trails can lead to a growth of invasive plant species.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

### **Lakeside Park plantings:**

John and Mike will purchase plants in the next week or so. Plantings will be installed at Lakeside Park on Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>.

### **Furnace Pond Trails/DEP approval:**

Anthony reported that borough engineer, Eric Keller, will walk the Furnace Pond site this weekend to gather information for preliminary report on cost of DEP permit application.

### **Invasive Plant Species workshop:**

Nicole would like to conduct an educational hike on invasive plant species. She requested that the hike take place prior to the start of the Clean Communities event at the Valley Road School on the 25<sup>th</sup>. John cautioned that the invasives may not have leafed out by then making them difficult to identify.

### **Lutheran Church easement:**

When our walk with borough engineer, Eric Keller, takes place, the EC wants to emphasize that the proposed trail will go around the parking lot not through it.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Anthony suggested the EC create a project wish list which could be used by the grant writer *Millenium* to research potential grant opportunities.

Owen questioned whether or not the EC can fund raise. If so, he suggested we have a dog photo contest online to select a dog mascot to represent Stanhope's trail system and events associated with the borough's trails. Entrance fees would support Stanhope's trails. Anthony said he would check with the borough attorney for legality.

**BILLS:**

None

**LIAISON REPORTS:**

Board of Health:

Mayor and Council:

Anthony reported that the EC budget increase proposed for 2021 was denied.

Lake Musconetcong Planning Board:

Rudy stated that the Lake Board has hired a new attorney.

Land Use Board:

Musconetcong Foundrymen Historical Society:

Musconetcong Sewage Authority:

Recreation Commission:

Shade Tree Commission:

Plaster Mill:

Water Quality:

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50PM with a motion by John Rogalo and a second by Anthony Riccardi. (UC)

Respectfully submitted,

Owen Newson, Secretary