

Approved 5/10  


**STANHOPE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

**Minutes: Regular Meeting  
April 12, 2018**

**RECEIVED**  
MAY 11 2018  
STANHOPE  
BOROUGH

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** at 7:37PM by John Rogalo 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 11, 2018 and was posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building on the same day.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Nicole Member, John Rogalo, Owen Newson, Michael Balogh, Anthony Riccardi  
Absent: None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

March 8, 2018 minutes were approved. Motion made by Mike Balogh and seconded by John Rogalo. Abstentions: Anthony Riccardi (MC)

**OPEN PUBLIC DISCUSSION:**

None

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**Received:**

*Skylands Visitor*, Spring 2018

3/15 SCMUA: E-Waste Collection Event

4/2 Brian McNeilly: E-mail regarding viewing platform concept

**Sent:**

3/15 Pinelands Nursery: E-mail for plant giveaway

**CURRENT ACTIVITY:**

The current fish kill at Lake Musconetcong and in the canal was discussed. John reported that the fish kill was caused by lowered water levels that were required for the ongoing dam reinforcement project. The lowered levels were too low and the cold Spring weather created unacceptable stress for the fish to survive.

Brian McNeilly's email was discussed. Brian reported that Mayor and Council decided not to move forward with the viewing platform/entrance concept for Salmon Memorial Park submitted by the EC. He did however want EC suggestions for the Plaster Mill's future. The EC has already endorsed Mayor and Council's decision to de-list the mill

## **CURRENT ACTIVITY (CONT.)**

from the National and State Register. The EC envisions the Plaster Mill as an open-air trail head station with stabilized lowered walls, a cement floor courtyard with picnic benches, and signage providing information on the history of Stanhope, the Morris Canal and Stanhope trails. The EC requested that Owen send an email to Brian stating such.

Mike reported that the annual tree seedling distribution will take place at the Valley Road School on April 16th at 9:30AM. Tree seedlings will be distributed to the 3rd grade classes.

The EC 2017 Annual Report was reviewed and approved. Motion made by John Rogalo and seconded by Nicole Member. (UC)

Clean Communities update: Nicole mailed letters to Stanhope non-profits notifying them of clean-up and requirements for the \$200 stipend. She reported that Dana Mooney is proceeding with the Clean Communities poster contest at Valley Road School this year. Dana would like the EC to help judge the contest and the EC agreed. Nicole suggested organizing a possible Tri-Town (Byram, Stanhope, Netcong) clean-up for next year. She also suggested that the clean-up could be supplemented by an Environmental Festival. Possible location might be the Waterloo Concert Field.

New Trail focus / Lutheran Church easement: No movement.

Facebook / Topic for Month: Anthony will post tick and Lyme disease information.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

Lakeside Park plantings: John stated that he will pick up the plantings for the park this month and on a day to be scheduled, in the presence of the Mayor, physically place the planting containers in an acceptable layout. DPW will do the actual planting.

Furnace Pond Trails/DEP approval: John reported that the slow response from DEP is due to the fact that the Superintendent of Lake Hopatcong has failed to file the needed permit, in part, because she does not know how. She is seeking guidance and will file the permit soon. The borough will follow with their own permit once the state park permit is filed.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Anthony reported that the borough Open Space Plan is expiring. He stated that Mayor and Council would like to create a committee composed of Land Use Board and Environmental Commission members to update the plan.

**BILLS:**

New Jersey Herald/16.80 Meetings Notice. Owen noted that the voucher for this bill was approved, signed and submitted last month. It is not clear why we have received the same voucher again. Owen will include a note for Linda stating such.

**LIAISON REPORTS:**

Board of Health: Minutes for 1/10/18 and 3/14/18 were reviewed. No comment

Mayor and Council:

Lake Musconetcong Planning Board:

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 9:10PM. Motion by Owen Newson and seconded by Anthony Riccardi (UC)

Respectfully submitted,  
Owen Newson, Secretary

