

STANHOPE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

**Minutes: Regular Meeting
April 8, 2021**

RECEIVED
JUN 11 2021
STANHOPE
BOROUGH

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: at 7:40PM by Mike Balogh 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, Rudy Shlesinger,
Michael Balogh, Nicole Member
Absent: Anthony Riccardi, John Rogalo

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

March 11, 2021 minutes were approved. Motion made by Nicole Member and seconded by Owen Newson. Abstention: Mike Balogh (MC)

OPEN PUBLIC DISCUSSION:

None

CORRESPONDENCE:

Received:

3/25/21 Email: ANJEC/Alex Ambrose: Green Infrastructure grant

4/1/21 Concrete Washout Systems: Advertisement

4/4/21 Email: NJ Forest Watch/Ken Dolsky: Proposed Forest Management Bill

4/5/21 Email: Land Conservancy of NJ: Funding for Open Space Plans

Sent:

3/12/21 Email: Brian McNeilly: ANJEC grant/Facebook post

The E-mail regarding the ANJEC Green Infrastructure grant was discussed. The EC was not aware of this grant and just learned of it through this recent email. Since the application was due immediately, administrator Brian McNeilly will handle Council approval and submittance. This grant is for green infrastructure for storm water runoff.

The request from the email from the NJ Forest Watch to object to the proposed forest management bill now before the NJ Assembly was declined by the EC.

The EC requested that Owen forward the email from the Land Conservancy of NJ promoting funding for Open Space plans to Brian McNeilly and ask Brian for an update on the status of the Open Space committee.

CURRENT ACTIVITY:

2021 ANJEC Grant:

Owen reported to the EC on the meeting with the grant writer Millenium. To help with the application, Owen is sending the Tri-Community Trail map. Nicole is sending a list of invasive plants found on the trail and native plants we would like to replace them with.

Mike requested that the EC should think of other projects that could be funded through grants and bring those ideas to our meetings. Mike asked Owen to place this as an item on our monthly agenda.

Clean Communities: 4/25/21

Nicole will request from Dana more contractor bags and kids gloves. Mike will bring a cooler of water and ice. Owen will request from Brian usage of the E-sign and Nixle system for advertising. Nicole will also submit the Clean Communities flyer to the schools. The time for the clean-up is scheduled from 1-4PM.

Facebook: Topic for month:

Owen will remind Brian to post Jack's Bell's Mansion award: press release and photo. Also post our Clean Communities flyer.

Open Space Plan Committee:

No movement.

Trail Maintenance: 11/7/21

No movement.

OLD BUSINESS:

Lakeside Park plantings:

Mike will talk to John about picking up plants. Plantings will be installed at Lakeside Park on Saturday, April 24th.

Furnace Pond Trails/DEP approval:

Mike will email borough engineer Eric Keller to follow up on his review of the Furnace Pond site.

Invasive Plant Species workshop:

Nicole has scheduled an educational hike on invasive species from 12-12:45 at Valley Road School prior to the Clean Communities event. She will check with Brian for permission.

Lutheran Church easement:

Mike will follow up with Eric Keller on scheduling a new date for a reassessment of trail viability.

NEW BUSINESS:

Owen reported back to the EC on the possibility of fund raising. He said Anthony had checked with the borough attorney who said it is not allowed. We can set up a separate account as a non-profit but this would require more legal oversight.

BILLS:

None

LIAISON REPORTS:

Board of Health:

Mayor and Council:

Lake Musconetcong Planning Board:

Rudy stated that the board is trying to sell the Hydrorake and that conclusions are mixed on the lake draw down.

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 Nicole Member and a second by Rudy Shlesinger. (UC)

Respectfully submitted,

Owen Newson, Secretary