

**MINUTES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMISSION
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
MAY 17, 2021**

By way of electronic communication/live streaming, the Environmental Protection Commission Meeting of the Township of Monroe was called to order at approximately 7:00 PM by Chairperson, Kathleen Flaherty. Adequate notice of this meeting was given as required by the annual notice of meetings.

Chairperson, Kate Flaherty led the Commission in the salute to our flag.

ROLL CALL

Present: Kate Flaherty, Jonathan Garbowski, Christine Gorham, Katie Seeley, Darryl Hodges and Anthony Derieux

Absent: Joseph Mahoney, Melissa Young and Cncl. Katherine Falcone.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES/AGENDA

Darryl Hodges made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted of the Environmental Protection Commission Meeting of April 19, 2021. The motion was seconded by Christine Gorham and approved by all members of the Commission in attendance.

CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

- **Email Correspondence**

Kate shared her screen to show the members in attendance the email correspondence that was received by the Commission regarding a Grant Program for up to 33% of acquisition costs from the Pinelands Commission that is available to all municipalities. A discussion followed regarding the grant program. Kate will follow up with Cncl. Falcone prior to the next meeting regarding this grant opportunity.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Master Plan Update**
 - **Native Plant Ordinance**
 - **Sustainable Monroe – Green Building Design Ordinance**

Kate noted currently she is unaware of any updates to the Master Plan. Kate asked the secretary, Jenn Harbison to forward the members of the Commission a copy of the Master Plan. Kate suggested that the members review the Master Plan prior to the next meeting, keeping their focus towards the Native Plant Ordinance and possibly some green building items.

- **Crystal Lake Contamination**

Kate provided an overview of the Crystal Lake contamination for the members who were not present at the last meeting when it was discussed. She has requested the records from the NJDEP for both the in-ground water contamination at Crystal Lake and for the old Remcor facility that was located next to Crystal Lake. Kate advised that the Remcor case files are closed, while the Crystal Lake contamination case remains open, which poses a concern. A discussion followed regarding the contamination.

- **Drainage Basin Project / Pamphlet**

Kate has worked on the pamphlet and believes it is very close to completion. She has reached out to the Director of Public Works, Nicholas Mercado and this coming Friday afternoon, herself, Melissa and Patrick McDevitt from Sustainable Monroe will be meeting with him at Owens Field to discuss the drainage basin that Public Works has in mind to use as the test basin. Kate noted, she will be bringing the Impervious Assessment Study that Rutgers performed for the Township to the meeting. Kate shared her screen, so that all of the members present could review the pamphlet she created. She noted, after the meeting, she will email the pamphlet to the Cncl. Falcone and the members of the Commission, asking that everyone submit their thoughts and comments within the next week. She would like to finalize the pamphlet, so it can get distributed to the residents. A discussion followed regarding the pamphlet.

- **Bike Path Property**

Currently there are not updates on the bike path property.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Social Media**

Kate said, the Commission had done a little more posting for Earth Day. There has not been a lot of engagement with the posts, however there have been more people liking the page. She asked everyone to continue to engage on the posts and asked to send any and all ideas they would like to see posted to herself or Christine.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Jonathan Garbowski made a motion to open the Public Portion. The motion was seconded by Anthony Derieux and unanimously approved by all members of the Commission in attendance. With no one wishing to speak and no public comment received, Jonathan Garbowski made a motion to close the Public Portion. The motion was seconded by Christine Gorham and unanimously approved by all members of Commission in attendance.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Darryl Hodges made a motion to adjourn the Monroe Township Environmental Protection Commission Meeting of May 17, 2021. The motion was seconded by Anthony Derieux and unanimously all in favor by all members of the Commission in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenn Harbison, Secretary

The next scheduled Monroe Township Environmental Protection Commission meeting is Monday, June 21, 2021 at 7:00pm.

These minutes were prepared from excerpts of the tape-recorded proceedings of the Environmental Protection Commission Meeting of May 17, 2021 and serve as only a synopsis of the proceedings.