



HADDON TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Minutes

Regular Meeting

Wednesday, January 17th, 2018, 7:00 pm

Haddon Township Environmental and Historical Education Center
143 E. Ormond Avenue
Haddon Township, NJ 08107

Quorum was declared at 7:05 pm.

FLAG SALUTE

- Commission Chair Maggi Liebe requested that all who choose to stand for the flag salute.

CALL TO ORDER – 7:06 pm

CONFIRMATION OF SUNSHINE LAW

- M. Liebe announced that Chapter 231, Public Law 1975 requires adequate notice of this meeting be provided specifying time, place and agenda. This was done by placing the meeting date and time on the Township calendar with notice of the meeting mailed to the Courier-Post and Retrospect newspapers, and by posting the agenda on two bulletin boards in the Municipal Building and on the Haddon Township website (<http://www.haddontwp.com>).

ROLL CALL

Nick Boonin	Absent (excused)
Maggi Downham	Present
Marlene Finizio	Absent (excused)
Maggi Liebe	Present
Erin MacMinn	Present
Christopher Martin	Present
Patrick Mulroy	Present
Kevin Randall	Present
Christopher Squazzo	Present
Robert Wittmann	Present

Also Present:

Harriet Rola – Haddon Township citizen

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: October 2017

- Motion to approve – C. Martin
 - Seconded – K. Randall, with unanimous consent

RE-ORGANIZATION

- Kevin Randall and Patrick J. Mulroy have been appointed as alternate members of the Environmental Commission.
- Robert J. Wittmann will be appointed as an alternate member of the Environmental Commission at the January 23rd Board of Commissioners' meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS - OLD/NEW BUSINESS – ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA

- **Health Advisory Council** – M. Liebe distributed handouts that detailed the prospective activities and responsibilities of the proposed HT Health Advisory Council, to be formed as a subcommittee of the EC during 2018.
- **EC Meeting Dates for February/March 2018** – M. Liebe has requested that regular meetings for the EC be moved to the second Thursday for each of February 2018 (02/08/2018) and March 2018 (03/08/2018), due to training obligations for her municipal clerkship.
 - Motion to approve – C. Martin
 - Seconded – M. Downham, with unanimous consent

AREA DISCUSSIONS

- **Executive Committee** – M. Liebe stated that K. Randall will serve as EC Treasurer and will sign off on any receipts and expenses incurred. This will avoid potential conflicts of interest in M. Liebe handling EC finances, due to her hire as Assistant Clerk by Haddon Township. C. Martin will continue to serve as EC Secretary.
- **Grants:**
 - M. Liebe initiated discussion of potential tasking for Comcast Cares Day. M. Downham stated that Comcast Cares Day has generated an equivalent of approximately \$5,000-\$6,000 in improvements and equipment in years past for HT, and is a major boon each year.
 - M. Liebe will request that Jim Stevenson of DPW deposit a sufficient quantity of gravel in preparation for shed installation behind the Environmental Center, in advance of Comcast Cares Day.
 - M. Liebe requested that C. Martin retrieve the list of prospective mini-grant cleanup dates for 2018. C. Martin was unable to recall assembling the list.
- **Education/Community Outreach** – R. Wittmann suggested that the EC employ Squarespace to develop an outreach website at modest cost. R. Wittmann stated that annual Squarespace website hosting fees for his law practice were approximately \$200, and that simple templates were offered which required little-to-no prior understanding of web coding and development.
- **Planning Board Permits and Master Plan:**
 - M. Downham stated that HT is pursuing candidate sites for affordable housing to achieve compliance with state mandate, and that compliance requires new construction.
 - M. Downham stated that Camden Truck Parts is submitting an OPRA request to HT for any documents detailing nature and extent of contamination on business site.
 - M. Downham stated that Treno Pizza Bar's unpermitted construction of a 10' barn-wood wall behind Perk's Place barber shop was approved.
 - M. Downham stated that an area of demolished homes along E. Crystal Lake Ave at rear of Treno Pizza Bar will be converted to additional parking.
 - M. Downham stated that the McDonald's restaurant located at 566 W. Cuthbert Blvd will demolish its Play-place unit to increase pavement and install a two-lane drive-thru. M. Downham requested that the establishment install fencing to block trash from blowing across the street to Newton Lake Park, and that the owner was amenable to the suggestion.

- **Land Conservation and Open Space Projects** – C. Squazzo inquired whether open action items remained from discussion of ROSI with Jessica Patterson of NJDEP Green Acres Program at March 22, 2017 EC meeting. At request, R. Wittmann was provided oral synopsis of ROSI/Green Acres process. M. Liebe suggested that the EC inspect HT tax maps and identify HT-owned property that may be eligible for ROSI inclusion, and suggested unoccupied space adjacent to Van Sciver Elementary School as an example. M. Liebe stated that open spaces of West Collingswood Heights and Edison Woods were priorities for ROSI consideration. C. Squazzo stated that any ROSI considerations for Edison Woods are contingent upon removal or remediation of abandoned sanitary sewer sedimentation tank.
- **Stormwater** - M. Downham stated that HT does not have a plan of attack for remediating the Paul VI High School stormwater outflow pipe. C. Squazzo stated that will make appropriate contacts at NJDEP to determine responsible party for addressing the issue.
- **Newton Creek Watershed Association:**
 - C. Martin inquired regarding prospective action to address mud runoff over Newton Lake Park walking path adjacent to Lees Lane, along southern edge of lake. M. Downham stated that the WPA created the mud issue by constructing the large barren hill adjacent to the path, from which mudflows originate. HT citizen Harriet Rola suggested installing terraces along the hillside to reduce runoff. P. Mulroy will research vegetation that might assist in preventing erosion for a terrace installation.
 - C. Squazzo and R. Wittmann requested to be added to Newton Lake Task Force distribution.
 - M. Downham assembled comprehensive book of periodical clippings regarding Newton Creek projects spanning 20th-21st centuries. C. Martin will digitize book and provide physical copy to Lorraine Prince.
- **Saddler's Woods Management:**
 - M. Downham stated that SWCA received \$10,000 grant from William G. Rohrer Charitable Foundation.
 - M. Downham stated that an English ivy cleanup will likely be scheduled in the near-future.
 - M. Liebe stated that Saddler's Woods now prominently displays a "NO DUMPING" sign.

PUBLIC AND MEMBER COMMENTS

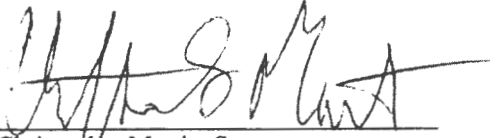
- HT citizen Harriet Rola suggested that any plans for Van Sciver Elementary School open space include any of meadow paths, benches, or signage indicating the presence of a meadow.
- Ms. Rola inquired whether an adjacent homeowner continued to encroach on Lees Lane Woods. C. Squazzo stated that he'd addressed the referenced issue.
- Ms. Rola inquired whether HT and/or HTEC may espouse a viewpoint on regional water issues, in particular a pending release of hydraulic fracturing waste upstream in the Delaware River that was a recent topic of discussion for the Delaware Riverkeeper Network. M. Liebe stated that EC members are permitted to express opinions and take action on any such matters independently of the EC and municipality, but that the EC as a unit remains neutral. M. Liebe and M. Downham stated that efforts to procure HT Commissioners' approval of proposed resolution against the release of fracking waste would be in vain. C. Martin stated that, in the absence of a substantial and quantifiable threat to municipal waterways as indicated by soil and water sampling, the municipality would very likely refrain from assuming a stance on a contentious issue.

ADJOURNMENT

- Motion to adjourn – R. Wittmann – 9:19 pm
 - Seconded – K. Randall, with unanimous consent

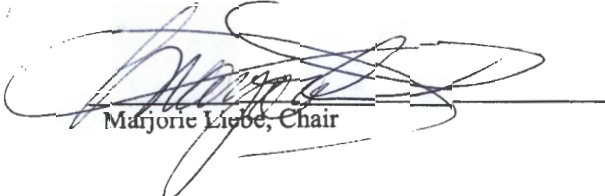
Next regular meeting scheduled for Thursday February 8th, 2018, 7:00 pm, 143 E. Ormond Avenue, Haddon Township, NJ 08107.

January 17, 2018



Christopher Martin, Secretary

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION



Marjorie Liebe, Chair