

Matawan Environmental Commission

Meeting Minutes
February 13, 2018

The regular meeting of the Matawan Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:03pm on February 13, 2018 by Commission Chairman Daniel Wieczorek.

I. Meeting Attendance

a. Present

Commission Members

Daniel Wieczorek
Meredith Comi
Deana Gunn
Jim Tobias
Sharen LaPorta
Larry McGee
Ginny Sanzo
Anthony Washington

Associate Members

Malini Guha
Michele Devanny

b. Absent

Adam Fernandez
Ken Ramsey

c. Guests

Pat and Diana Noble
Paul Rinear
Diane Doolittle

II. Review and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the January 17, 2018 Meeting approved as submitted
Minutes must be emailed monthly to Robin Klinger and Karen Wynne

III. Member and Guest Reports on Affiliate Organizations

- a. Update from Shade Tree meeting
- b. Update from Aberdeen Environmental Commission Advisory Board
 - i. Shredding Event
 - ii. Recycling
 - iii. As per an initiative brought forth by the Aberdeen Town Council-Pending JCP&L Energy Efficiency upgrade to LED lights – approximately 5% of town lights per year can be replaced
 - iv. Sandy Recovery Trees – bare root seedlings to be given away to aid in post-Sandy recovery
 - v. 3rd Grade Tree/Arbor Day Program – possible joint project with Matawan-Aberdeen Educational Foundation (MAEF)
 - vi. Viability of becoming a “Tree City USA” Community

IV. Current Projects of Interest - In Order of Priority

- a. Spring Cleanup – set for April 14, 2018, rain date April 15, 2018
- b. Henry Hudson Trail – in an effort to complete the trail, the Monmouth County Park System is rallying towns and commissions to write to NJ Transit (owner of the property which could serve to connect the trail) and encourage NJ Transit to cooperate with the Monmouth County Park System to complete the trail
- c. Lefferts Efforts – waterfront clean up, especially in preparation for the fishing derby, kayak tours, expansion/nature trail
- d. Watershed signs
- e. Community Garden

V. New Business

- a. Jim Tobias discussed an event being held by the Matawan-Aberdeen Educational Foundation (MAEF) on February 26, 4-6pm at the Middle School – *A workshop with Newark Science and Sustainability, which is a grassroots group that does community gardening, environmental stewardship and community technology*
- b. Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions (ANJEC) Membership feasibility for the Commission and membership rates
 - i. Upcoming training event on March 10th at Tatum Park: “Fundamentals for Effective Environmental Commissions”
Cost is \$45pp, as the Commission is not currently a member of ANJEC
- c. Environmental Education (EE) Grant Discussion
- d. Backyard Bird Count Event – 2/16, 2/17 and 2/18
- e. Discussion of a joint meeting of the Matawan and Aberdeen Environmental Commissions for a joint training opportunity in Sustainability
- f. Discussion of Environmental Working Group (EWG) and water quality reports
- g. Discussion of the Commission engaging in Environmental Educational Outreach in our community. Possibly at the library on a regular basis, doing info shares on topics such as energy efficiency, etc.
- h. Discussion of creating a volunteer workforce for upcoming Commission projects/events, such as via Girl & Boy Scouts, 4H and Facebook

VI. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:06pm by Daniel Wieczorek. The next general meeting will be at 7:00pm on March 13, 2018, at the Matawan Municipal Community Center.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ginny Sanzo