

Matawan Environmental Commission

Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2018

The regular meeting of the Matawan Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:00pm on March 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
Adam Fernandez

b. Absent

Ken Ramsey

c. Guests

Alison McCarthy
Tina Marie Walling
Paul Rinear
Diane Doolittle

II. Review and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the February 13, 2018 Meeting approved as submitted

III. Guest Speaker – Matawan Recycling Coordinator – Grace Rainforth

- Updated the Commission on current communications with Clean Communities and Shade Tree
- Will be working on organizing a Green Team and has encouraged all groups such as the Environmental Commission, Shade Tree, etc. to maintain info share and stay connected, as many group missions can overlap between organizations and the groups can work together to accomplish similar goals.
- Discussed new recycling center that will hopefully open May, 2018
- Emphasized importance of the recycling calendar for all pertinent information
- Link to PDF version on Borough Website:
<http://www.matawanborough.com/matawan/Borough%20SERVICES/Recycling/>
- State of New Jersey is highly ambitious in increasing the rate of recycling across the state

IV. Member and Guest Reports on Affiliate Organizations

- a. Aberdeen Environmental Advisory Board (Dan)
 - i. Aberdeen is 75% solar in their municipal buildings
 - ii. Community garden discussion
 - iii. Aberdeen will most likely qualify for Tree City USA 2018
 - iv. Discussion of poetry contest for Arbor Day
 - v. Discussion of joint MEC-AEC meeting on school sustainability (further addressed in New Business)
 - vi. Discussion of upcoming (date pending) meeting with Monmouth County Parks, NJ Transit, Aberdeen Environmental Commission, Matawan Environmental Commission regarding the Henry Hudson Trail
- b. Matawan Shade Tree (Larry)
 - i. Reviewing Tree City USA qualifications and application
- c. Planning Board (Sharon)
 - i. Nothing to report that impacts the Matawan Environmental Commission
- d. Bayshore Regional Watershed Council (Meredith)
 - i. Meeting was cancelled, nothing to report
 - ii. Follow their website and Facebook for continuous updates on their events, clean-ups, etc
 - 1. Website: <http://www.restoreraritanbay.org/>
 - 2. Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/bayshorewatershed/>
- e. Monmouth County Environmental Council (pending)
 - i. No report for this meeting
- f. Matawan Town Council (Deana)
 - i. No report for this meeting

V. Reports on Special Events/Meetings Attended

- a. Matawan-Aberdeen Educational Foundation (MAEF)
 - i. Jim Tobias updated the Commission on the workshop with Newark Science and Sustainability that was held on February 26, 2018. Recapped the event, turn out and info share
- b. Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions (ANJEC)
 - i. Dan updated the Commission on the training event that was held on March 10th – “Fundamentals for Effective Environmental Commissions”. Great information was provided in the session and it is highly recommended to attend one of the other 2 sessions coming up, especially since the Matawan Environmental Commission is now a member of ANJEC
 - 1. Saturday, March 17, 9am-1:30pm (Morris County)
Roxbury Community Center, 72 Eyland Avenue, Roxbury, NJ
 - 2. Saturday, March 24, 9am -1:30pm (Gloucester County)
Washington Twp. Mun. Building, 523 Egg Harbor Rd., Sewell, NJ

VI. Progress Reports on Active Projects

- a. Spring Cleanup (Meredith & Anthony)
 - i. Scheduled for Saturday, April 14, 2018, from 9am to 11am, with a wrap up and sapling give away afterwards at Terhune Park (Rain Date 4/15/18). Final details, flyers and social media info pushes will be forthcoming
 - ii. Discussion of having sign-in sheets for any girl/boy scout troop members that volunteer, the Commission would like to provide Fun Patches for them. Final details will be forthcoming
- b. Henry Hudson Trail – (Dan)
 - i. Upcoming meeting (date pending) with Monmouth County Parks, NJ Transit, Aberdeen Environmental Commission, Matawan Environmental Commission
- c. Lefferts Waterfront Cleanup/Expansion/Nature Trail
 - i. No report this meeting
- d. Lefferts Kayak Tours
 - i. No report this meeting
- e. Signs Marking our Watershed
 - i. No report this meeting
- f. Community Garden (Dan, Meredith & Anthony)
 - i. No official report this meeting, but brief discussion of the viability of a Distributed Model of community gardening for Matawan, due to the limited available space. Also discussion of varied gardening styles/types, such as vertical gardening
- g. Rain Garden (Anthony & Larry)
 - i. No report this meeting
- h. Tree City USA (Larry)
 - i. Reviewing Tree City USA qualifications and application

VII. New Business

- a. Upcoming Meetings and Projects
 - i. Discussion of 3rd Grade poetry contest for Arbor Day
 - ii. Joint MEC-AEAB meeting with Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District – Thursday, March 22, 2018 at 7:00pm at the Cambridge Park School, 1 Crest Way, Aberdeen
- b. Matawan Aberdeen Education Foundation Mini-Golf – possible event this coming June, flyer attached

VIII. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:56pm by Daniel Wiczorek. The next general meeting will be at 7:00pm on April 10, 2018, at the Matawan Municipal Community Center.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ginny Sanzo

Matawan Aberdeen Education Foundation's Mini-Golf Event Sponsorship Opportunity

What Is It?

A temporary mini-golf course organized by the Matawan Aberdeen Education Foundation (MAEF). The holes will be **designed and built by teams from the schools and community organizations**.

Here are some photos of last year's event. We're doing it again this June, with **more teams, longer hours, and more publicity**. There are awards for most fun, most challenging, and best overall design.



Where Do You Come In?

We're looking for sponsorships from businesses in our towns. Sponsorships help teams buy materials for their hole. You can donate materials or labor also. We hope you'll want to publicize and attend the event. In return, you'll get recognition on our signs, social media posts, and opportunities for newspaper and other media coverage. There are targeted opportunities for food, beverages, scorecards, and team award prizes.

We'd be happy to have you in your personal role also, doing publicity, helping teams design and build their holes, finding materials, and helping us during the event with all the last-minute tasks.

The Final Pitch

- Fun. Everyone loves mini-golf!
- A community-building event
- Publicity for your business
- Help our students join the inspiring "Maker Culture" that will revive our nation's manufacturing base

Contact Jim Tobias at 908.907.2387

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