

Matawan Environmental Commission
Meeting Minutes
January 17, 2018

The regular meeting of the Matawan Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:00pm on January 17, 2018 by Commission Chairman Daniel Wiczorek.

I. Meeting Attendance

a. Present

Commission Members

Daniel Wiczorek
Meredith Comi
Deana Gunn
Jim Tobias
Sharen LaPorta
Larry McGee
Ginny Sanzo

Associate Members

Malini Guha
Ken Ramsey
Michele Devanny

b. Absent

Anthony Washington

Adam Fernandez

II. Introductions

All members of the commission introduced themselves, provided some background information and shared their individual goals/intents for being part of the commission

III. Historical Perspective of Previous Commission/Exploration of Ideas and Initiatives

- a. Rain Garden Project – discussion of its resurrection
- b. Rain Barrel Project
- c. Discussion of the possibility of adding a pathway through the marshes along Matawan Creek
- d. Put up signage to alert travelers of Watershed areas
- e. Henry Hudson Trail cleanup in cooperation with Monmouth County Parks Department
- f. Connect Henry Hudson Trail by the rail trestle on the Matawan/Aberdeen border
- g. Twice a year cleanups (spring and fall) to possibly include high school students as part of their community service requirements
- h. Community garden, possibly at Burrowes Mansion
- i. Consider partnering with Aberdeen Environmental Commission for any relevant projects
- j. Consider partnering with Main Street Citizens Alliance for any relevant projects

- IV. Concerns Expressed by Members of the Commission
 - a. High nitrogen levels in Lake Matawan and Lake Lefferts caused by pesticide run-off from residences bordering the lakes
 - b. Should the Commission explore a “Tree Ordinance”
 - c. Condition of marshes by Aberdeen Road near the train station
 - d. Point Source Pollution
- V. Valuable Affiliate Organizations/Meetings for Commission Members to Attend and Report Back
 - a. Matawan Planning/Zoning Board
 - b. Bayshore Watershed
 - c. Aberdeen Environmental Commission
 - d. Monmouth County Environmental Commission
 - e. Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions (ANJEC)
 - f. Sierra Club
 - g. Town Council
 - h. Main Street Citizens Alliance
- VI. Other Business Addressed
 - a. Creating an Organization Binder/File Cabinet for Commission Minutes and Commission Projects
 - b. Creating a Facebook Page to create community awareness of what the Commission is doing
 - c. Getting Commission information and updates on the town website, as well as in the Town Calendar for the year
 - d. Consideration of having a high school student hold the remaining available Associate Member position
 - e. Jim Tobias reported on 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, a grassroots group that does community gardening, environmental stewardship and community technology
- VII. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm by Daniel Wieczorek. The next general meeting will be at 7:00pm on February 13, 2018, at the Matawan Municipal Community Center.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ginny Sanzo