

**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 26th, 2022 MINUTES - 7:30PM**

The East Amwell Township Environmental Commission meeting was called to order at 7:32 P.M. by Secretary Kavchok.

The following statement of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act was read into the record by Secretary Kavchok: **“In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, this is a regularly scheduled meeting pursuant to the Annual Meeting Notice as published in the February 3, 2022 issue of the Hunterdon County Democrat. A copy of the agenda was forwarded to the Hunterdon County Democrat, filed in the Township Clerk’s Office and posted on the bulletin board & township website.”**

**ROLL CALL** (*P=Present, C= Cancelled, A= Absent, X= unavailable*)

Committee Member, Title (Term Expires)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/		
	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2		
	4	8	8	5	3	7	5	2	6		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/		
	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2		
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2		
	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2		
Marnie Stetson, Chair (12/31/2023)	P	P	P	P	C	P	P	P	X		
James Edwards, Vice Chair (12/31/2023)	P	A	P	P	C	A	P	P	A		
Alison Kavchok, Secretary ( 12/31/2022)	P	P	P	P	C	P	P	P	X		
Mark Castellano, TC Liaison (12/31/2022)	P	P	P	A	C	P	A	P	A		
Erica Johanson (12/31/2022)	P	A	P	P	C	P	P	P	X		
J. D. Groon (12/31/2024 )	P	P	P	P	C	P	P	P	X		
Greg Chiacco (12/31/2023)	P	P	P	P	C	P	A	P	X		
Lyndsey Manzo (12/31 /2024)	X	P	P	P	C	A	P	P	X		
Acting Clerk											

**REVIEW OF AGENDA**

There were no revisions to the agenda.

### **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

There were no members of the public present.

### **PRESENTATION OF MINUTES**

Approval of the August 22nd, 2022 minutes was deferred to October.

### **UNFINISHED/ONGOING BUSINESS**

- **Sustainable Jersey:** Secretary Kavchok provided an update on her discussion with Margaret Thompson, Sustainable Hunterdon Coordinator, regarding her Sustainable Jersey submissions. The Commission's green scene initiative will not be submitted this year as it does not meet the required standards for points; therefore, the Commission will focus on a more productive Green Fair for April 22nd, 2023 (Earth Day).  
The Rain Barrell lesson did not qualify for 5 community education and outreach points, however it and an accompanying Rain Garden cleanup/review, which took place on Sep 18, 2022, were submitted under the Water Conservation Education Program which would equate to 10 points.  
Secretary Kavchok advised that the 159 fund has been created and we can move forward with purchases related to a tree sapling giveaway/education initiative in the Spring.
- **EV Station:** Chair Stetson will approach the Township Committee after the election on whether there will be funding available to fulfill the BPU grant in the 2023 budget. NJBPU awarded East Amwell a \$75,000 grant to install a DCFC charger in December of 2021. The township would have to pay up front and be reimbursed, and the quotes to install such are in excess of 100,000.
- **Commission Events:**  
The Commission intends to hold a Green Scene (Fair) on April 22nd, 2023.
  - Secretary Kavchok discussed vendors/presenters who she has spoken with or intends to speak with about participating. Proposed ideas, initiatives and vendors are:
    - Terracycle
    - Beekeeping Demo (Inglin)
    - Electric Vehicle cars on hand
    - Raritan Headwaters Association
    - Clean Communities/Recycling Committee
    - Sustainable living vendors
    - Tree sapling giveaway

Community Education initiative proposed for the winter of 2023 are:

- January: Member Johanson will arrange to have a speaker from Monarch Watch to join the Commission as a special discussion.
- February: Chair Stetson will see about having a community member with geothermal as well as those with hydrogen powered homes join the Commission for a special discussion on sustainable living options.

On September 18th, the Commission assisted East Amwell Township School Environmental Club members in their second clean-communities funded cleanup of Clawson Park. This cleanup also included a lesson on invasive removal, planting natives and the purpose of rain gardens. The rain garden was incredibly overgrown; options were discussed on how to properly maintain it.

- Secretary Kavchok will (1) reach out to members of the Native Plant Society and Princeton Hydro on maintenance suggestions, (2) identify people who would commit to maintaining the rain garden on a bi-annual basis, and, (3) schedule a spring rain garden cleanup with community and school members and members of the Native Plant Society.

The Commission participated in the annual Delaware River Cleanup on September 17th at the Prallsville Mills section of Stockton. There were not enough participants from East Amwell to submit this cleanup against our clean communities grant.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Arbor Day Foundation:** Secretary Kavchok provided information on a grant opportunity that, while large scale, could supplement our tree planting efforts. Member
  - Manzo will reach out to Geils Tree Service re: open space areas within the township that would benefit from a large-scale planting.
  - Secretary Kavchok will speak with the Sourland Conservancy regarding partnering with them on future initiatives.

### **ORAL REPORTS**

**Planning Board** - Chair Stetson advised that presentations will resume at a special meeting on 9/29 for the Region 9 housing development.

**Parks & Recreation** - Secretary Kavchok advised the next event is the Chili/Bake Cook off/Harvest Fest on October 2nd.

**FOSPC** - Member Johanson will follow up on preservation efforts within the Township.

**Township Committee Liaison** - There was no update as Mayor Castellano was not present.

### **CLOSE TO THE PUBLIC**

There were no members of the public present.

### **PRESENTATION OF VOUCHERS**

There were no vouchers.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

All Correspondence was distributed to the commission prior to the meeting.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Chair Stetson and seconded by member Chiacco. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

---

Name, Title