

MOORESTOWN ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

DATE: Thursday, May 18th, 2023, 7:00 P.M. @ Library Room A.

PRESENT: Joan Ponessa, Chris Salvatico, Henry Balikov, George Gravenstine, Barbara Rich, & Nicole Gillespie.

MINUTES: Approved. Moved by Henry and seconded by George.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE INVENTORY (ERI): Joan and Chris had a call with Mel on May 15th where the status of the DVRPC review was discussed. The report is still in editing and the new date for release is the beginning of June. MEAC would like to present the ERI to Council at their June 12th meeting for adoption. This would entail the digital copy only so that the Council's approval can be added to the textual version. Nicole stated that DVRPC has been fully paid the remaining balance on the contract. Chris will ask Mel for an interim version of the ERI to distribute to Council before the June 12th meeting. Both Mel and Nicole are researching costs for additional copies beyond the 35 we are due under contract.

APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW: There were no applications for review this month.

CHARTER FOR MEAC: Joan distributed a letter she received in the A.M. of May 18th from Patty Muscella that discussed a recent conversation at the May 4th Planning Board meeting concerning MEAC's role in the plan review process. They would like MEAC to develop a list of the types of applications that we feel we should be reviewing and an explanation as to why we each type of application is requested. MEAC discussed this letter as well as the issue of how we would see ourselves contributing to the overall planning process going forward. It should be noted that this meeting was not part of the Planning Board's posted agenda and no one from MEAC was forewarned or invited to be part of the discussion.

"YEAR OF THE ENVIRONMENT" AND WATER PROJECTS: Joan passed out a double-sided brochure discussing water saving tips and "Never Flush Wipes" information. MEAC will also develop a brochure discussing how to properly dispose of medications. Nicole will explore if the Township can print copies for MEAC's use at Moorestown Day and The Paddle Board Race. The basins issue was discussed and MEAC will formulate a plan to have an educational session on proper maintenance inviting residents who currently have basins on their property. The State law required the Township to take an inventory which was completed with MEAC's assistance but had no follow-up after that.

OPEN SPACE REPORT: Barb reported that STEM will pay for updates to and the printing of the "Take a Hike" brochure. She also mentioned that the State DEP has released new flood hazard rules. She also reiterated the need for an ordinance or rules for septic system maintenance. She mentioned that Evesham has such an ordinance and Moorestown should review that example. Barb also presented a brochure on fertilizer use and will explore obtaining additional copies for handouts at public events.

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORT: Nicole reported that the new budget will be introduced at the next Council meeting. It will call for a 1.89% tax increase. The police department will be adding an additional patrol person and just hired a Director of Police. The Council introduced a bond ordinance to conduct a feasibility study in bringing a hydrothermal carbonization (HTC) process to the wastewater treatment plant. The vote on the ordinance will take place at the June 12th Council meeting and all are invited to attend and lend their support. Pulverizing Services went to Sheriff sale with no bidder so the Township can now take possession of the property in lieu of back taxes.

FUTURE MEETINGS: The next following standard meeting will be scheduled for Thursday June 15th at 7:00 P.M. in a Library meeting room.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 P.M. Moved by Henry and seconded by Chris.

SUBMITTED BY: Chris Salvatico, Secretary.