

COMMERCIAL TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES OF

September 11, 2018

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm by Chairman Nardone who announced the meeting is held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Present: Ken McGill, Pat Smith, Dale Schweitzer, John Nardone, Julie Gandy and Amy Wright via phone. Absent: Jim D'Ambrosio. Also, in attendance Committeeman Mike Vizzard.

Minutes: Motion to approve minutes of June 12, 2018 as amended to include "Mary" before "Ella Morie Park" by Pat seconded by Dale. Minutes approved as amended.

Presentation: Matt Pisarski and Casandra from Cumberland County Planning Commission discussed the proposed County Farmland Preservation Program. He provided maps of project area with lot and block and owners. (see attached). The area can be expanded once one or two farms are preserved. The goal is to have one farm to present to the State. Matt explained the program and the benefits to the community, township and county and answered questions. He requested the Commission, if we concur with the program to write a letter of support to the Land Use Board (LUB) for their October meeting. It was the consensus of the Commission to support this program. John will write the letter to the LUB.

OLD BUSINESS:

ANJEC: Julie reported the 45th Annual Environmental Congress will be held on Friday, October 12 from 9am to 4:30pm at the Mercer County College Conference in West Windsor.

ANJEC's 2018 Achievement Award will be presented at the Congress. After discussion it was determined that we could submit our milkweed program next year.

Sustainable Jersey: Pat reported that the Annual Luncheon will be held on November 13 from Noon to 2pm at the Sheraton Hotel in Atlantic City. Cost is \$35 pp.

Also, Pat reported there are many workshops and webinars on environmental issues on the Sustainable Jersey website.

Milkweed plants: each member reported on the status of their sites. The Lake Audrey plants, and some in the Mary Ella Morie park been eaten by wildlife and about 1/3rd of those that were planted along the fence at the ballfield have died. Other sites are doing okay. A motion by Ken seconded by Dale to purchase two (2) signs at \$16 each from MONARCH WATCH to be placed at the Park and the playground. Motion approved.

John reported the grant from Sustainable Jersey for the milkweed plantings just needs the final financial report to be completed.

Bench from Trex should arrive in 7-10 days and will be installed by the township at the Veterans Park. Motion by Pat seconded by Ken to have a brass plaque made for the bench with the wording "Provided by the Commercial Township Environmental Commission 2018". Motion approved.

Correspondence: None

Ken reported that the Farmland Preservation Program will be on the October Land Use Board agenda.

Motion by Ken seconded by Pat to open the meeting to the public. Committeeman Mike Vizzard recommended we get colorful plastic stakes to mark the location of the milkweed plants in order to identify their locations next year. Motion by Ken seconded by Pat to get tent stakes. Motion approved. Motion by Ken seconded by Dale to close public portion. Motion approved.

Motion by Dale seconded by Pat to adjourn. Motion approved at 7:50pm.

Respectively submitted,

Julie Gandy, Secretary

cc: Twp. Committee
CTEC members