

**Readington Township**  
**Environmental Commission Reorganization & Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**January 7, 2020**

**OPEN MEETING**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Hendrickson at 7:00 p.m. stating that the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act have been met and that this meeting had been duly advertised.

**Members in Attendance**

Stephen Foster  
Neil Hendrickson  
Jonathan Heller  
Robert Becker  
Susan Masinda  
Jerry Cook  
Judith Tutela  
Jeff Charney

**Members Absent**

Todd Terricone

**Approval of 2020 Meeting Dates**

Chair Hendrickson noted that the meetings will be held on the first Tuesday of the month except for November when it will be on the third Tuesday.

Mr. Cook moved, and Mr. Heller seconded, a motion to approve the 2020 meeting dates as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**Minutes**

Mr. Foster moved, and Ms. Tutela seconded, a motion to approve the minutes for December 3, 2019. The motion carried unanimously.

The Environmental Commission secretary was present and gave a brief overview of the Planning Board and Board of Adjustment application review process.

**LOI/Freshwater Wetlands**

Letter of Interpretation Verification Withdrawal- Hunterdon County ROW-Noted  
Multi-Permit Application – JCP&L Vegetative Maintenance, Utility Infrastructure Maintenance & Repair and Replacement Activities- Noted  
Letter of Interpretation & Line Verification Application- Block 64 Lot 19.01- 511 Farmersville Road-Noted  
Letter of Interpretation Application- Block 5 Lot 8-Noted

**AOC (Areas of Concern)**

Suspected Hazardous Substance Discharge Notification- Block 28, Lot 12- 1 Pulaski Road - Oil Heating #2  
Underground Storage Tank- No Further Action-Noted  
Suspected Hazardous Substance Discharge Notification - - 43 Readington Rd. - Oil Heating #2 Underground Storage Tank- NJDEP Case#19-12-27-1019-02-Noted  
Suspected Hazardous Substance Discharge Notification- 22 Dreahook Rd. - Oil Heating #2 Underground Storage Tank- NJDEP Case#19-12-09-1011-56-Noted  
Suspected Hazardous Substance Discharge Notification- Block 21 Lot 30- 397 Route 22 - Oil Heating #2  
Underground Storage Tank- No Further Action-Noted

**Other Business**

Mr. Becker provided, and the members of the Environmental Commission discussed a list of potential grant opportunities as follows:

Date	Title	Objective	\$	\$ Cost	Due Date	Status
11/29/2019	ANJEC	Pollinator Garden	\$1,000		5/5/2019	Awarded
11/29/2019	Energy Projects	Funds any energy related activity dealing with generation or use	\$9,000-30,000		10/31/2019	
11/29/2019	Open Space Conservation	Provides funds to purchase privately held woodland property	\$600,000 max	50% in kind	1/6/2020	
11/29/2019	Electric Vehicle Charging Station	Two port charging station	\$6,000		Open	Submitted
11/29/2019	Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration	Focus and riparian buffers reclamation	\$20,000-\$50,000		1/30/2020	
11/29/2019	Roots for Rivers	Tree planting in riparian buffer Holland Brook 523	\$1,000 – 20,000	in kind	12/31/2019	Submitted
11/29/2019	Community Forestry Stewardship	Any aspect of community tree program	\$10,00-\$20,000	In kind	5/29/2020	
11/29/2019	Complete Streets	Assessment and recommendations of street configuration relating to walkability, safety	data		12/20/2019	Submitted
11/29/2019	New Jersey Clean Energy	Baseline study of current use of energy by municipality to establish future goals for improvement	data		Open	Processing
12/13/2019	SFI Grant Funding	Demonstrate tree value by application, training, awareness			1/31/2020	
12/13/2019	Sustainable Jersey	Apply to any action category in program	\$2,000 - 20,000		2/14/2020	
1/3/2020	Roots for Rivers	Tree planting in riparian buffer Bloy Farm 319H	\$1,000 – 20,000		12/13/2019	Submitted
1/3/2020	DEP RFP #2	Watershed restoration, enhancement and protection	Not defined		2/10/2020	
1/3/2020	Clean Fleet Electric Vehicle Incentive	\$4000 toward electric vehicle purchase and \$1500 dual port level 2 station	As indicated		4/15/20	
1/3/2020	TD Green Space	Green infrastructure development, forestry stewardship, green space expansion	\$20,000		1/17/20	

**Species Selection for Tree Seedling Program**- Chair Hendrickson noted that this year they will no longer be getting any tree seedlings for free. The cost will be approximately \$.80 per tree in a bundle of 25. The plan is to try and get around 2,000. Chair Hendrickson noted that we would review the species list that was provided.

**Single Use Plastics Ban**- Mr. Foster noted that there was an article in the Sunday Star Ledger that listed all the towns and the actions they have taken for plastic ban ordinances as of January 1, 2020. It was noted that many towns have developed ordinances at the local level as the bill continues to work through the process at the state level. It was suggested that members of the Environmental Commission talk to local business owners in the township for input to assist in the drafting of the ordinance for Readington Township. It was agreed that all members of the Environmental Commission would review the sample ordinances provided by ANJEC (Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions ) and be prepared to draft something at the next meeting. Different ways of getting the word out and getting people more engaged was discussed. It was also noted that grants are available that would enable the Environmental Commission to give reusable bags to every household in the Township. It was noted that 10,000 bags would be needed.

Mr. Becker provided the below activity status for December.

<b>Area</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Next Steps</b>
Community Solar	45 applications were approved in first year pilot program. 100% will serve low to moderate income housing	Continue to Monitor.
Street Tree Inventory	RVCC completed inventory but changed data capture to a new database needed input in Tree Plotter	Convert RVCC database to Tree Plotter and review inventory completeness
Ash Tree Treatment	None	Discontinue future report
Sustainable Jersey	50 categories were submitted for review before the Sept. 8 deadline. We obtained Bronze level with 270 pts when only 150 required. An additional 14 categories were resubmitted before the Nov. 25 deadline. We obtained Silver Level status in December	Evaluate final scoring for trends and impact. Summarize back to EC for review in February. Going into the next 3-year cycle, we already have 245 points, many expire before 2023
Wildlife Advisory	Nothing to report	Discontinue future report
Tree Advisory	Updated draft 4-year plan based on TA meeting. NJUCF extended original plan 5 more years. Updated new plan	Discontinue future report

**Recycling**

Other options of how to recycle #'s 3-7 and the cost involved was discussed at length. It was noted that it will be difficult to find a company that will take it since it is not profitable for the companies.

Chair Hendrickson discussed the Readington Commons application and reiterated the Environmental Commission's concerns about water and the flooding that occurs in the area.

**Adjournment**

It was the consensus of the committee members to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marie Lehberger

Secretary to the Environmental Commission