

**Readington Township Environmental Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
September 10, 2024**

OPEN MEETING:

The meeting was called to order by Chair Becker at 7:04 p.m. stating that the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act have been met and that this meeting had been duly advertised.

A) Roll Call

Attendance	X = Present - - - = Absent - = Meeting Canceled											
Member	2/6	3/5	4/2	5/7	6/4	7/2	8/6	9/10	10/1	11/12	12/3	
Becker	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	X				
Charney	X	X	X	---	X	X	-	X				
Foster	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	X				
Giroud	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	X				
Heller	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	X				
Hendrickson	X	---	X	X	X	X	-	X				
Masinda	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	X				
Panico	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	X				
Ward	X	X	X	X	---	---	-	X				

B) Approval of Minutes:

7/4/2024 Minutes: Steve Foster made a motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Jeff Charney, and carried by all.

C) LOI/Freshwater Wetlands:

None.

D) AOC (Areas of Concern):

- 1. Biennial Certification of Remedial Action Protectiveness 2024 Submittal Former Walmart Store #5069 3576 Route 22 West, Hunterdon County, Readington Township, New Jersey NJDEP**

The members discussed the report. Monitoring will continue and a report will be provided every two years.

E) Correspondence:

None.

F) New Business:

- 1. BioBlitz**

The recreation committee has engaged in this effort to raise awareness for pollinators and brought it to the attention of the members. There are two events coming up on September 18th at Dobozyński Farm at 6 PM and September 22nd at Pickle Park at 3 PM.

- 2. Communication on Township Website and Facebook**

The chair polled the board on which communications methods are utilized. The chair voiced concerns on methods and internal process.

3. Trees – Annual Community Forestry Report

The forest management plan needs to be updated. An annual report needs to be completed. The chair has noticed a lot of activity and inquired if all the work and trees taken down are being reported. More to be discussed next month. Neil mentioned the Shade Tree conference taking place on October 17th and 18th. The current ordinance was discussed. It was suggested to post about the tree ordinance and make residents aware.

4. Project Updates: Green Fair, Rockaway Creek, Airport, Deer Management, EV Charging, Sustainable Action Team

Stephanie Panico and the Chair discussed the Green Fair on September 28th in Clinton Township. Registration is open for those with a business or organization who are interested in participating. Members discussed the banners, tables and other logistics needed to prepare for the event. A handout with QR codes that link to information such as the deer survey, environmental assessment, and other documents to show people who we are. The chair said he would put that together and send it out to everyone prior to the event.

G) Old Business:

1. MLUL Resiliency Analysis – Hazard Impact Scoring of System Features Assessment:

The Chair reminded the reason for the discussion and the Hazard Impact Scoring assessment chart. Members discussed weather events that have occurred in Readington Township and across NJ. Statistics and profiles about Readington Township were discussed. Many factors naturally strengthen our resiliency. Members discussed data from RHA and the strain of our streams. Climate change and its effects were discussed. Discussion occurred on all categories on the chart.

2. Environmental Concern Properties – Review DEP response email

DEP contaminated sites response was reviewed and discussed. Half of the sites were remediated with POET systems. There were over 350 homes affected by those sites. They still have not identified the source. Members discussed the response provided and possible solutions to assist residents. Members discussed contacting the homeowners to inform them of the situation and provide recommendations on what to do. More will be discussed next month.

H) Site Plan Review and Comment:

None.

I) Public/Members Comment:

A member suggested publishing a notice about the hazard of trees and the issue of the dead Ash trees. Neil discussed his experience in the township with the handling of Ash trees. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

J) Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jeff Charney, seconded by Susan Masinda at 8:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Danielle Monaghan
Advisory Board Secretary