

WTEAC Minutes August 20, 2020

Meeting opened under the Sunshine Law at 7:18 p.m.

Attendance (Roll Call) by Secretary Ellen Smith

Present: Chairperson Wilma Morrissey, Secretary Ellen Smith, John Ozell Hance Sitkus and Township Committeeman Tim Farrell.

Absent:, Scott Burke, Joe Balesterri and Greg Wolek.

Member of the Public: Bob Kilmurray, former WTEAC Vice Chair

Motion for June Minutes. Motion: Hance Sitkus 2nd: John Ozell

Vice Chair Bob Kilmurray has moved to another town. We thanked him for all he has done. We will miss his expertise and dedication. Wilma Morrissey and Township Committeeman Tim Farrell presented Bob with a certificate to recognize his work on the WTEAC.

Robin Ruggiero, Dinosaur Sculpture in the Woods- A woman from Brick created dinosaurs in the woods of Allaire State park from sticks. We discussed possibly inviting her to make a dinosaur on the Community Nature Trail or Wreck Pond location.

Balloon Petition Update COA- Clean Ocean Action: A statewide bill to prohibit the intentional outdoor release of balloons, and to minimize accidental release was introduced. Balloons are festive and fun, but released outdoors they can be lethal to birds, turtles, whales, and many others. Balloons litter our ocean and are one of the most lethal forms of marine debris. In fact, 70,055 balloons were removed from NJ beaches by volunteers in just 40 days during the 20-year period (1999-2019) of COA's biannual Beach Sweeps! Also, a recent study in the journal Marine Policy ranks balloons as #3 of the 20 deadliest forms of trash in the ocean.

Support A4322 by signing [the petition](#)! COA is not anti-balloon, just anti-balloon litter, and wants to protect marine life from this harmful, painful, and senseless threat.

<https://www.change.org/p/clean-ocean-action-act-now-to-support-a-ban-on-outdoor-balloon-releases-in-new-jersey-to-protect-wildlife?signed=true>

Open Space Position Paper- Hance Sitkus is working on it.

Blue Star Awards from Clean Ocean Action: We may not be eligible for any at this time.

ANJEC 2020 Environmental Achievement Award -Wilma Morrissey submitted a Nomination Form for the Environmentally Yours newsletters in the Wall Township Living magazine.

Sustainable Jersey: We reviewed the comments and recommendations to go from Bronze Status to Silver Status. Committeeman Tim Farrell will speak to the Township committee regarding updating the smoking ordinance to make all parks as well as the Municipal Complex 100% smoke free. Any changes or updates on the second round of actions are due on September 11th. Committeeman Tim Farrell would like to sit down with Wilma Morrissey and Assistant Administrator Kate Kohri to see what Sustainable Jersey grants are available to the town.

September 11 – Township Administrator **Jeffrey Bertrand** told Wilma Morrissey that the town would give us the finances for the 9/11 Interpretive sign when he submits his own plans. He presently does not have a date as to when.

Discuss NRI – Wilma Morrissey asked Tim Farrell if we could include the NRI in the Township Plan. It's presently updated to be included in the Master Plan.

Wall Township Living article: This month's article was about the WTEAC Community Nature Trail.

Site Plans and Legal Notifications: Application ASP WALL, LLC on 5165 Belmar Blvd. John Ozell reviewed and these are his recommendations:

1) The application includes buildings near the Airport Clear Zone as well as site improvements within the Airport Clear Zone. While on-site, several aircraft were observed flying directly overhead for landing strip approaches. The smell of aircraft exhaust was evident while on-site. Future land users will likely contend with heavy noise pollution from aircraft as well as aircraft exhaust fumes. Changes in the landscape may impact the Airport Clear Zone.

2) The application's Environmental Impact Statement & Natural Resource Inventory (Page 5) states a freshwater wetlands General Permit No. 10 will be required to cross the Birdsall Rd. entrance. The application for the permit has been submitted to the NJDEP and was still under review by the NJDEP as of 02/2020.

3) An abandoned house and garage are to be demolished. Consideration should be given for proper disposal of any above ground, or below ground, storage tanks that may be on any area of the property. Proper guidelines should also be followed for the proper disposal of any hazmat type materials that may be part of the demolition, or otherwise located on the site.

Old Business, New Business: A birdbath was suggested for the WTEAC Allenwood Native Garden. There is the concern of mosquitoes in stagnant water. A fountain was suggested. The running water will not be conducive for mosquito eggs.

Green Recognition Program. We are looking for candidates to participate.

Public Comments: Bob Kilmurray thanked us for the certificate.

Adjournment: 9:11PM Motion: Hance Sitkus 2nd Tim Farrell

Attachments: Rain Barrel Workshop Doc, Allaire Dinosaur/Robin Ruggerio email, stormwater presentation link, Harmful Algal Bloom Response Effort, High-Speed Rail's True Barrier Isn't Money. It's Space., Monmouth County Environmental Newsletter: July 2020, New Hampshire Opens its Roads to Flying Cars, NJDEP Rule Proposal Notice, NEW SCIENTIFIC REPORT DETAILS CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON NEW JERSEY, SUPPORTS MURPHY ADMINISTRATION EFFORTS TO PROTECT THE STATE'S ENVIRONMENTAL, PUBLIC AND ECONOMIC HEALTH, Spotted Lanternfly photos, The Very First Fourth of July, Wall Twp Application Feedback (Sustainable Jersey) and Your Sustainable Jersey Application is Now Unlocked!

Prepared by Ellen Smith