

EWING TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
Board Room at Ewing Senior Center
999 Lower Ferry Road
Ewing, NJ 08628
February 24, 2017 Meeting Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER-OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT:

Chair Joe Mirabella called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM. He began by reading the following statement: "The notice requirements provided for in the Open Public Meetings Act have been satisfied. The Ewing Township Council properly gave notice of this meeting in the resolution on January 1, 2017 which was filed with the Clerk and posted in the Ewing Township Municipal Complex, and has been sent to the Times of Trenton and the Trentonian newspapers."

I. Call to order

II. Roll Call: Lee Farnham, Ann Farnham, Joanne Mullowney, Charlie Maack, Joe Mirabella, John Hoegl

Excused: Joann Povia, Dan Burke

III. Introduction of members of general public. Evan Crumiller, Dave Lyons

IIII. Approval of minutes of December and January meetings: Approved

V. Election of Officers: John Hoegl was re-elected Vice Chair.

VI. Potential New Members: Evan Crumiller expressed interested.

VII. Committee reports:

- a. Planning Board and Site Review: Dan Burke and Ann Farnham:
No news from the Planning Board.

Site Review: Ann Farnham

It was decided that the new owner at the Sierra office park at 380 Scotch Road should be in place before board decisions are made. Student Realty at 1935 Pennington Road has a design that will be reviewed by Dan.

- b. Green Team: John Hoegl, Joe Mirabella, Joanne Mullowney:
A program on the emerald ash borer will take place tomorrow night. Newsletter was sent out.

A new round of the Green Business Recognition Program will begin shortly. Business owners may apply through the application form available on the Green Team website:

- [PDF](http://ewinggreenteam.files.wordpress.com/2016/04/green-business-application1.pdf) - (<http://ewinggreenteam.files.wordpress.com/2016/04/green-business-application1.pdf>) ,
- [Online](https://ewinggreenteam.org/ewing-green-business-application/) -- <https://ewinggreenteam.org/ewing-green-business-application/>.

The Ewing Green Team is looking to identify a creative place-making project to promote the arts and sustainability.

Community Gardens registration is ready to begin. Spring programs are in place.

Merger County Sustainability Coalition participation will continue. Three programs re: energy sector will take place.

c. Johnson Trolley Trail: Lee Farnham, Dan Burke:
No news.

d. Plant of Month: Ann Farnham:
Native plants will be highlighted in March, with invasives set for April.

e. Website, etc.: Joanne Mullooney:
Joanne is looking for articles.

f. ANJEC: Lee:
A commissioners trading course will take place March 4th. Annual meeting will be in October.

ANJEC will share our Tree of the Month column.

Small grant applications are due by April 7th. A possible grant project may be to help planting in the detention basin.

g. ETRA: Joe:
Last week a presentation was made regarding plans for the Walmart property. The redevelopment authority authorized the developer to move forward.

VIII. Old Business

a. EEC Ordinance Proposals - Joe:
Standards for volcanoing was brought to some council members.

b. Pipeline News: Jo Ann Povia:
No report

c. Watson Park update: Dan Burke:
No report.

d. Community Forestry Management Plan: Lee:
A tree canopy survey came out to 34% up from 27%. The plan will be submitted soon.

A Tree City USA application will be submitted.

Arbor Day volunteers are needed, as part of the CFMP application. It could be done with the detention basin project or the native garden in front of the ESCC.

e. ERI: Lee:
No report

f. Green Team Points:
No report

g. EEC Community Outreach - Jo Ann:
Lee Farnham will take it over.

h. EEC/ Cups & Much More: Lee.
Possibilities were reviewed and discussed. White caps with logo was a popular choice.

i. Updated Membership List: Jo Ann:
It will be distributed.

j. EEC Annual Report:

Each member should select a section to report on by next meeting. The website has a link. Volunteer hours should be reported.

k. Monthly Walk/Bike Rides:

Joe & Jo Anne: Invitations will be extended for the future events.

l. Scudder Falls Bridge/No Net Loss update: Lee:

The 600 plus trees for the bridge has been revised to 400 after recalculations.

m. FMC Dollars for Doers:

\$1000 for Bruce Black's EEC service is in the Township account and can only be used by the EEC. One possible use of the dollars is promotional items that can be sold at cost. Brainstorming should be done for the next meeting.

n. Invasive- Dan:

No report

o. The EEC and Green Team are investigating the option of seeking a 501(c)3 designation. Town administrators had some discussion about advantages and disadvantages of the move. We are still waiting for a response before moving forward. Concerns were expressed regarding our level of commitment to managing the paperwork.

IX. New business

March 18th Mercer Green Fest at Rider:

Joe and Jeff will man the table.

X. Correspondence

ANJEC Membership Fee was submitted

XIII. Adjournment at 8:15 pm.

Joe Mirabella, Chair

Jeff Passe, Secretary