

TOWNSHIP OF DENNIS

Environmental Commission Meeting

Wednesday February 22, 2017

Call to order was made by Chairman Bob Penrose at 5:30pm.

Chairman Penrose lead the Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Castor
 George
 Herlihy
 Hoff
 Penrose
 Rosenthal
 Slotterback
 Turner

The Chairman opened the meeting with the announcement that Chris Castor has been made Vice Chair.

A motion was made by Chris Castor and 2nd by Jim Herlihy to accept the minutes, of the January 25th Reorganization and Meeting, as presented with corrections noted. All were in favor, so moved.

Scott Turner, cross-over member to The Consolidated Land Use Board, reported that they had a very short meeting. The Route 47 property, Block 64, Lot 30, was not discussed at the last Board meeting and is on the agenda for the next Board meeting tomorrow 2/23. He personally visited the site and observed that in the proposed building area it is currently compacted soil, shrubs and trees. Questions remain regarding wetlands delineations and subsequent buffers; Mr. Turner noted that the delineations may not be shown as they appear to be far away from the tidal lines. Alma George pointed out that while the plans roughly show where the tidal water is, without an actual delineation of wetlands one cannot tell where those buffers might be and whether or not development might impact those wetlands. Also of concern was the storm water management, particularly in that area. The Landscape proposal was discussed with regards to what is being planted and if more native species could be included. Several members noted that there are some low water holding areas on the front of the property and wondered if rain garden or other suitable plants could be utilized. Discussion continued and revolved around review of site plan and storm water management plan. Chris Castor recommended ANJEC's video on storm water management as a good source of information on the subject.

Discussion continued regarding development in general and landscaping. It was suggested that the DTEC could compile a list of native plants that could be incorporated into the landscape design. This list would be made available to all applicants at time of application. Sue Slotterback will work on putting list together of good things to plant.

Chairman Penrose brought up the need for a "Check List" for all Applications received for review. Suggestions:

Landscaping – use of native species , is it the right tree for that location, think 20+ years down road
if you remove trees, what about replacement?

Storm water management

Historic resources

Light pollution – “Dark Sky” minimizing nuisance light from commercial and residential sources.

Public Access to natural resources?

Is the community impacted good/bad or no impact?

Wetlands are they impacted and how

How does it Impact ground water?

What about the habitat, endangered species etc.

Are there or will there be any hazardous materials on site and if so what about storage locations etc.

Noise – equipment, traffic, etc. Noise Ordinance?

Chairman Penrose tasked Scott Turner and Brad Rosenthal with working on that check list.

The meeting continued with the topic of Free Trees from NJDEP Forestry!

The application is due to the state by 2/28/17. It was the consensus to order 1000 bare root plants. The plants will be available for pick up in Woodbine 3/31/17. Alma George agreed to pick and secure the seedlings at her farm.

Various ways of distributing the seedlings were discussed:

Distribute at Schools – about 525 children – date to be determined

Opening day for Baseball/Softball – date to be determined

Community Day hosted by the PTA – date to be determined

The Old School House Museum – Saturdays April 1st and April 8th

Volunteers stepped up to assist in distribution: Frank Hoff, Jim Herlihy, Chris Castor and Scott Turner

It was the consensus to have the Vice Chair, Chris Castor be the contact on the DTEC webpage. Chris will have an email account set up dedicated to DTEC and it will be posted on the DTEC webpage.

Frank Hoff brought up the DTEC Facebook page and wondered who would be managing that now since Cindy Leatherwood is no longer on the Commission. Chris Castor agreed to take charge of the Facebook page.

Frank Hoff also commented on the handouts provided by the DTEC at various community events last year were helpful and would like to see that continue and grow this year. Everybody agreed!

Chairman Penrose stated he will follow up with Ray Rebmann and Jerry McManus regarding the Municipal Garden and Ilene Turner Memorial.

It was brought up that ANJEC (Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions) might have grant money available for signage for the Municipal Garden and Turner Memorial.

Brad Rosenthal made a motion to adjourn, Scott Turner 2nd the motion. All were in favor, so moved.