



Dennis Township Environmental Commission May 2, 2023 Meeting Minutes  
Zoom Meeting hosted by Dennis Township Committee member Scott Turner.

Present at the meeting in addition to Scott Turner were: Bob Penrose (Chairman), Justin Turner, Ray Rebmann, and Sue Slotterback. Brad Rosenthal, Jim Herlihy and Lisa Salimbene were absent.

Following roll call, April meeting minutes were approved.  
There was no guest speaker.

Mr. Penrose described a letter to DEP Land Resource Protection from EDA, informing the division of an application for freshwater wetlands Letter of Interpretation submitted for property located off Petersburg Road. Mr Penrose was not aware of any information regarding future development plans for the parcel.

The commission next heard about current Land Use Board activity. First off was the ongoing application of Pierson Pleasantville for its property located in the business district on Woodland-Ocean View Road and Corson Tavern Road. Mr. Penrose noted that the site is located near a campground but is situated in a section of the township zoned industrial. There is a conservation area on the property.

Pierson wants preliminary and final site plan approvals along with assorted variances needed to allow for a ready-mix concrete plant with its existing gravel pit.

This application has been before the board through a number of meetings. Currently, testimony is being taken from expert witnesses for objectors. These in turn are cross-examined by attorney for the applicant.

No Environmental Impact Study has been completed to date and Pierson is seeking waiver from same.

Mr. Penrose, who is the DTEC crossover member to Land Use, has been involved in meetings during the process. He doesn't anticipate testimony being completed at the next meeting, as both the applicant and objectors have expert witnesses and are represented by attorneys.

Meanwhile, a second application heard at the April meeting was James and Sandra Ciardelli's request for variance to build a pole barn on the front yard of their Little Mill Road property. The site is located in the Pinelands Rural zone.

Details of these and all ongoing Land Use Board applications are usually available for review on the township website under Consolidated Land Use Board.

Members next discussed updating the township tree inventory. Mr. Rebmann is working on a digest history of literature on the subject, Members will discuss options of approach for obtaining information on current "significant" trees as well as compiling a general list of tree types in the township.

In conjunction with this, is the need to update the state-mandated Community Forestry plan, which will likely require technical assistance from a professional arborist. The commission will reach out to Mickey Riggins who has previously performed arborist services for the township.

The final agenda item was the ongoing municipal garden restoration project. Concrete has been poured and Public Works is presently building planters for the modified project.

Members will consider which plants to recommend using for the garden's raised beds. Ms. Slotterback advised that there are a number of native plant sales ongoing this time of year. In addition, Mr. Rebmann will again reach out to Mr. Herlihy to obtain a list of plants along the nature walk adjacent to the garden. This is for the purpose of purchasing identifying signs.

There being no other business, Mr. Penrose closed the meeting.