

City of Lambertville
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
7:30 P.M., Wednesday, December 11, 2019
CITY HALL, 18 YORK STREET
MEETING AGENDA

1. Call to order and statement of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act

2. Roll Call

Cyndy Jahn

Gina Fischetti

Kate Millsaps

Liz Magill Peer

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Approval of Minutes

The EC will consider the October minutes at the next meeting.

5. Public Comments

- a. Deb Vari (115 Clinton): recommended posting pictures of what can and cannot be recycled in the Trex boxes on City website as an educational tool.

Liz noted there is an infographic and Mark does education of what cannot be recycled on the Lambertville EC page.

Gina noted pictures on Facebook would be helpful for those not using the website.

Liz will follow up with BA.

- b. John Addrizzo (91 N. Main): New resident to Lambertville and has had trouble locating different resources; asked if the City can create a welcome packet on recycling and other environmental issues?

Liz noted a welcome packet is a long term project the City has been working on.

- c. Scott Hengst

6. Old Business

- a. Sustainable Jersey

- Ditching Disposables: bags and door hangers came in under budget so the EC has about \$ 3,516 in surplus that can be used for other ditching disposables initiatives. The EC could also submit a proposal to Sustainable Jersey to spend the money on other issues. The EC has until October to utilize the funding.
- Additionally, the City is eligible for a \$2000 grant. Liz will share information with members if anyone would like to work on a proposal. The grant application is due Feb 14th.

Gina expressed an interest in bat houses.

- The Sustainable Jersey point system will have a new Renewable Government Energy Aggregation category that the City can potentially qualify for points.

b. Sub-committees

- Waste Stream: Liz updated the EC that efforts are underway to provide stickers for third cans but there is a delay. DPW is currently in the hiring process.

c. Planning Board – Gina

Application for a development at 1 Holcombe Island. The application is for a single family dwelling.

Members of the EC expressed interest in talking to Planning board staff to about potential participation in or notification of EC members for the completeness review process.

d. Pesticides

No pesticides updates.

e. PennEast

Liz shared that at the DRBC hearing on December 11 community members requested DRBC close the PennEast application based on the 3rd circuit decision and DEP closing the application. DRBC noted they are keeping the docket open as they await PennEast to submit additional info.

f. Trex – Mark

Liz noted Mark is now lead on program coordination and that he has recruited volunteers to support the program. At this point, over 600 pounds of film has been collected and need to delivery it to a regional collection point.

g. Ditching Disposables

Liz and Kelly are working on the midterm report. Scott is working on developing metrics around the program and ways to collect data on those metrics.

Homestead won Green Innovator award, elected by residents to recognize their early adoption of green business practices.

Event on Monday: Mindy Mutterpearl is speaking at 7pm at Justice Center on changes people can make to be more green.

h. LGW

Deb Vari: Cherry St fence will be installed next week. Mary Anne drafting final report for ANJEC.

Mary Anne will send a draft on landscape ordinance to LEC for review.

Earth Day partnership for the 50th Year: LGW working on a tree seedling giveaway and a tree planting. NJ Forest Service can make seedlings available, but need to apply by Jan 16. Based on NJFS seedling pickup, the event would be April 4th or 5th.

Gina noted Salem City oak acorns (one of the oldest trees in the State that recently died) are going to every municipality in the State. DEP is coordinating that effort.

Liz noted the budget request for LGW was increased from \$1000 to \$2000 based on request to acquire signs.

7. New Business

a. 2020 Meeting Dates

Members would like to combine the Nov/Dec meeting – Dec 9, 2020- and the July/August meeting- August 12, 2020. Will vote in January to adopt that change.

b. BA updates

- Food waste: working with locally owned vendor to compost on farm. As a non-commercial facility, will need to work with vendor to determine if the facility can compost harder bioplastic products, such as compostable utensils.
Will launch pilot program where just restaurant waste goes to the farm and see if can be expanded to residents.
- Trex: see above.
- Energy efficiency updates: working on a program with BPU to make energy efficiency upgrades
- EV charging station: Two Level 2 chargers will be installed, location to be determined.
- Treeless initiative: City looking to reduce paper usage.

c. PSEG Letter

PSEG sent notification that the company is seeking a freshwater wetland general permit for sediment remediation activity in Swan Creek.

d. 2020 Earth Day

Discussed above

e. Natural Resource Inventory Update

The City is required to update the Natural Resource Inventory every 8 years. Liz will talk to BA about how to proceed.

f. Green Innovator Award

Discussed above.

g. Spotted Lantern Fly Education Brainstorm

The BA has asked the EC to work on an educational campaign as resource residents are asking for are not currently available from other sources, specifically advising on how to destroy when spotted and how City can get rid of them.

Liz asked LGW to put on the issue on their next agenda and LEC will brainstorm too and coordinate in February for an educational campaign.

8. Announcements

9. Adjournment

Cindy made motion to adjourn and Gina seconded.