

City of Lambertville
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
7:00 P.M., Wednesday, March 31, 2021
Zoom
MEETING AGENDA

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

2. Roll Call

Lindsay Hansche

Doug Hara

Cyndy Jahn

Kate Millsaps

Kelly Kappler

Liz Magill Peer

3. Approval of Minutes

Kelly motioned to approve the minutes and seconded by Cyndy. Minutes were approved (6-0).

4. Old Business

a. LGW Report from Mary Anne Borge

- Emerald Ash Borer: Mary Anne noted you can treat with pesticides but not recommended and beyond that there are few management options. She recommended cutting branches back to snag height so they do not cause damage when they fall. She noted the State has a good website that can be shared with residents so they have helpful information. She also encouraged replanting when they have the ash tree removed.
- Spotted Lanternfly: Mary Anne noted the Penn State extension has very helpful information. Right now residents can find egg masses on trees and try to remove them and soak to destroy the sacks. Residents can also make tree traps that have minimal impact on other insects. Mary Anne

recommends educating residents about identifying and removing the egg masses.

- Earth Month: Lindsay noted the City is putting together a poster and website with all the information on the events that will be available.

b. Green Infrastructure Rule and Stormwater Ordinance Update

Sophie Glovier from Watershed Institute commented that they are supportive of the increased protections in the ordinance; she would encourage the City to also include redevelopment in the ordinance. Sophie noted the DEP is expected to come out with revised rules later this year around the climate change initiative, providing another opportunity to update the ordinance.

The EC noted that stormwater management is appropriate in some redevelopment projects. A motion was made by Cyndy and seconded by Doug to recommend a discussion between the planning board and council to see what is appropriate trigger for redevelopment. Motion passed (6-0).

Kate will check in with Emily Goldman on why redevelopment not included.

c. Sustainable Jersey

No update from Keziah at this point.

d. Ditching Disposables

Liz provided the following updates:

- The Library will be ordering books and City will reimburse
- Green business certification: Liz advised DEP that we will direct businesses to their statewide registry; flyer is now live on Facebook.

- The awards are in for the Sustainable Business Awards. The EC will work to organize presentation event with Mayor.

Lindsay provided the following information on the animated video: the subcommittee is working on the character and script. The EC members approved the character. Lindsay noted they hope script will be finalized for next month. EC approved the draft that Lindsay circulated earlier in the month.

e. PennEast

Liz noted written updates to members need to be provided on the agenda so members of the public have the information as well. Will move to that model for future meetings.

Keryl provided the following update on PennEast:

- Plan multi-CAP call with confirmed speakers Gary Brackenridge (HALT) and Mike Spille (West Amwell), moderated by Sue Begent from Lambertville CAP for April prior to Supreme Court arguments. Email update will be sent out to listserv and advertised with other CAP groups
- Recent developments
 - Biden admin Solicitor General filed brief in support of PennEast in Supreme Court case. Joint response from Bonnie Watson Coleman & Malinowski.
 - Interest to reform FERC
- Next meeting – April 13th 6-7PM via ZOOM

f. Planning Board

Kate noted the agenda for the next meeting includes a subdivision on Cottage Hill, the redevelopment of the auto parts store on Delevan, and the landscape and stormwater ordinances.

g. Pesticides

Kelly noted no update beyond the Earth Day events on insects' importance.

h. Waste Stream

No updates at this time.

i. CAT Update

Cyndy noted Council voted to approve acquisition of the Klausen property.

j. Trex

Lindsay reached out to our contact at Trex and they recommended bringing a few bags to the store each week. Kate noted East Amwell and Berkeley Heights have successful programs and maybe we could reach out to them for ideas about moving forward. Lindsay will explore reaching out to Flemington-based stores to see if we can partner.

k. Environmental Resource Inventory

Kate will reach out to Emily to confirm if her firm can do an ERI, how much it will cost, and if they can do \$1500 worth of work by June 1st from the Sustainable Jersey grant.

Liz will confirm what the budget is that is available for the ERI in 2021.

l. Green Infrastructure Rule

m. Litter Clean-ups

No updates currently

- n. Watershed Institute Opportunities – Liz noted that Amanda will join next month to discuss these events further.
 - i. Microplastics Collection
 - ii. Rain Barrel Collection – Lindsay noted not part of Earth Day but would be interested in organizing later. Facebook poll to determine if residents prefer in-person or virtual event.
- 5. New Business
 - a. Storm Water Management Ordinance Review
- 6. Public Comments
 - None.
- 7. Announcements
 - a. Planning Board, CAT and PennEast updates are allowed to be provided in written form. They also need to be included with the agenda on the website for the public. Need to be provided to Liz one week in advance.
 - b. In past years the EC had a Climate Action Plan on the agenda and it was tabled. Liz will meet with Sophie at the Watershed Institute and Christine from Sustainable Hunterdon to discuss their work on the Princeton Climate Action Plan. EC could work on this as a multi-year process.
 - c. Canal clean up on April 10th on the PA side.
 - d. Musconetong Watershed Association is hosting a clean up this month as well.
- 8. Adjournment
 - Kelly made motion to adjourn, Doug seconded. Motion passed (6-0).