

March 14, 2019

The March 14, 2019 meeting of the Mansfield Township Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chair Paul Tarlowe, held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act of 1976, and followed by a Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Present were Paul Tarlowe, Dawn Smith, Marin Martin, Robert Jewell, Glenn Todd and Ruth Pante; also attending were Township Committeeman Michael Misertino and resident Linda Schimke.

#### Minutes

It was MOVED by Mr. Jewell to accept and approve the minutes of the February 14, 2019 meeting, seconded by Ms. Martin; all in favor.

#### Musconetcong Watershed Association / Rain Gardens

Mr. Tarlowe said any decisions for rain gardens under consideration is now in the hands of the MWA, as reported by Trustee Gary Pohorely. This is a two-year project. Mr. Jewell said Ms. Fascenelli of the Green Team has suggested the Cafferata Park as a possible site for a rain garden. There is no known limestone in the park area, but the detention basin near WalMart has a sink hole. Mr. Tarlowe offered to address the issue with Mr. Pohorely.

#### Year-End Report

The draft Year-End Report prepared by Ms. Pante and reviewed by Mr. Tarlowe was shared with Commission members. One sentence is to be removed from the draft and replaced with another that clarifies the reason for the Township Committee's decision to discontinue pursuit of the Environmental Resource Inventory update. This report is to be finalized and presented to the Township Committee.

#### Budget Request

After discussion, it was MOVED by Mr. Todd to submit a budget request for \$450.00, this amount to be \$350.00 for ANJEC dues and \$100.00 for a mushroom workshop; seconded by Ms. Smith; all in favor.

#### Mason Bees

Ms. Smith, who will assist with a grant application, encouraged this endeavor. Ms. Martin explained it is too late to consider a project with the Mason Bees, but the Leaf Cutter Bees can be a project for this year since they are late-summer pollinators. A project to develop the propagation of either species must begin with awareness, and it was agreed that Cub Scouts, Mr. Todd's birdhouse construction workshop and the school newsletter would be good eye-openers for this endeavor. Ms. Smith MOVED to make application for an ANJEC grant for this bee project, seconded by Mr. Jewell; all in favor. Ms. Smith and Ms. Martin will begin preparation for this endeavor by developing a dollar amount to be requested. The purpose of the project is "To Provide An IntraCommunity Means of Increasing the Pollinator Population in Order to Maintain and Enhance Agricultural and Residential Flowering Vegetation".

#### Mail

Careaga Engineering, Inc. has sent notice of application by Russell Hooridge for an applicability determination for Highlands Exemption #2 and is for construction of a single family dwelling on Mt. Bethel Road, Block 202, Lot 7.01. This has been submitted to the DEP. Commission members had no comments.

#### Land Use Board Report

Mr. Jewell reported a 20,000 gallon tank at Meadows of Mansfield is leaking; the pipe was taking in ground water which could affect the operation of the plant. High density HDPE pipe is being used for water at the site.

Mr. Jewell said an application is anticipated for the Columbia Too property which will continue as a salvage yard.

Environmental Issues

Mr. Misertino reported a preliminary budget meeting was held at last evening's Township Committee meeting and that he would confirm a dollar amount that had been proposed by Committee in light of the Commission's budget discussion.

It was MOVED by Mr. Jewell to adjourn at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ruth A. Panté