

MANSFIELD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

JUNE 8, 2023

The June 8, 2023 meeting of the Mansfield Township Environmental Commission was held at the Municipal Building and 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 members Paul Tarlowe, Robert Jewell, Glenn Todd, James McMekin and Ruth Panté. Ann Bemis was excused, and Kathleen Todd was absent. The Chair declared the presence of a quorum.

MINUTES

Mr. Jewell MOVED to accept and approve the minutes of the May 11, 2023 meeting, seconded by Ms. Panté. With no changes or corrections and abstentions noted by Mr. Tarlowe and Mr. Todd, all in favor, the motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMENTS

Pollinator Garden: In the absence of Ms. Todd, no report was available. However, Mr. Tarlowe noted he is available to help with the draft of a grant application next year.

Bluebird Trail: Mr. Tarlowe reported Jim Mershon is planning an inspection tomorrow. Reporting further, Mr. Tarlowe said predation has caused some losses but there are still some boxes standing and successful nests. Luke Barrett is inspecting weekly; he renumbered the boxes which are now in good shape; fasteners have been changed on some boxes. Numerically, Box 1 has two eggs; Boxes 2 and 3 are empty; Box 4 has baby birds; Box 5 has 6 eggs; Box 6 contains wren eggs; Boxes 7 and 8 have a nest but no eggs.

Salem Oak: Mr. Tarlowe reported the young tree looks wonderful; he has taken some photos showing the growth of the tree which have been posted on the Mansfield Neighborhood Watch Facebook group.

Land Use Board: Mr. Jewell reported the hearing of the application for the former Columbia Too site has been carried for a third month. The site will be difficult because it requires a septic, well and storm water management plan which are not forthcoming.

The Bank of America (formerly Family Food Market, Rt. 57) shows four lights are proposed, two on existing poles and one for security.

Meadows at Mansfield: Members present discussed the potential for more development. The NJDEP has said the septic system must be completed by April; the developer indicated this will be accomplished by January 2024.

Mr. Tarlowe will not be available for the July 13, 2023 meeting. If there are no pressing environmental issues, the meeting will be cancelled.

It was MOVED by Mr. Jewell to adjourn at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth A. Panté, Clerk

**Next meeting date:
August 10, 2023**

JULY MEETING HAS BEEN CANCELLED