



Liberty Township Environmental Commission Minutes of Monthly Meeting

2021, July 15

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. This meeting was advertised on the Township Website Blog as in-person at the Township municipal building and on LTEC's Facebook page.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Chair Larry Supp, Maureen Bonner, Rich Larsen, Doug Hankin, first alternate Diane Gonski

Absent: Michael Hoffman and Sarah Longo

PUBLIC ATTENDEES: Josh Muzikar

Approval of minutes:

- February 18, 2021 Minutes – motion was made by Maureen Bonner to approve, seconded by Rich Larson. Doug Hankin and Diane Gonski abstained.
- June 17, 2021 Minutes – motion was made by Rich Larson to approve, seconded by Doug Hankin. All in favor.

Communications: None

Old Business:

- **Sandwich Boards** – Order was placed last Friday and they will start printing tomorrow. \$20 for double sided posters for a total of \$100.00. Town Committee approved the use of the boards if they are kept out of the street. Boards/posters cannot be used for fundraising.
- **Allowing use of Sandwich Boards to other Liberty Twp. Groups** – This will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and if the EC is able to remain in control of them to maintain the Town Committee's guidelines, it will likely be fine.
- **Garden and Wildflower patch update** – No volunteers yet so Maureen is going to try some other ways to solicit. Rich is still helping to maintain. There was discussion with Shannon about spreading out plants to allow for easier weed whacking. There is \$219 left in the ANJEC account that can be used for the project. Possibly use a sandwich board with a poster of what flowers are in there. The hill section looks better than it did a month ago.
- **Coordination with Mountain Lake Community Association on common interests** – There will be no official liaison between the Mountain Lake Community

Association and the Environmental Commission. The Lake Association may designate members to attend our meetings at their option if they wish.

New Business:

- **Lake monitoring update** – Most recent DEP results have us under a “watch”. Samples show higher levels of blue green algae at deeper depths than at the surface, as well as higher oxygen levels at depths of 10-15 feet than at the surface. We will begin doing a weekly Facebook post with an update on current levels and direct the public to the NJDEP for additional details.
- **Nominations for vice-chair** – Rich nominated Doug Hankin as Vice-Chair, Maureen seconded, all in favor.
- **Community Day preparations** – Maureen, Diane, and Rich will work together to get things started. They will follow-up with Doug Wright about septic contacts. Rich will inquire about the table/tent set-up to clarify what we need.
- **Solitude Contract** – Discussion took place on whether members feel that it’s the responsibility of the EC to handle the Solitude contract going forward. Because the treatments are for the beach, should the responsibility fall under the Recreation Department? Who should be responsible for notification to residents about the chemical application and risks to drinking water? If the expectation of the Township Committee is that the EC is recommending the treatments because members have done due diligence to confirm the chemicals are safe and effective, the EC should be doing more to confirm that. Members agreed to begin investigating the chemicals for safety. At the August meeting Doug Hankin will report back with his findings and members will decide as to whether to vote on using left-over money to hire an expert to do a study.

COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS: None.

APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES: Doug made a motion to approve the payment to Solitude for the first treatment, Rich seconded, all in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Larry made a motion to adjourn, Rich seconded. Adjournment at 8:22pm.

NEXT MEETING August 19, 2021