



Liberty Township Environmental Commission Minutes of Monthly Meeting

September 16, 2021

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, Vice-Chair Doug Hankin, Maureen Bonner, Rich Larsen, Martine Kieffer (Zoom), first alternate Diane Gonski, and Sarah Longo (Zoom)

Absent: Michael Hoffman

Approval of minutes:

- August 19, 2021 Minutes – Motion was made by Rich Larson to approve, seconded by Diane Gonski. All in favor.

Communications: Clarification regarding the Plastic Recycling Program was discussed. The LTEC was not asked to reinstate, and the Clerk and Deputy Clerk prefer to maintain control over the program.

Old Business:

- **Community Day Final Plans** – All plans are in place and purchases have been made under the \$200 budget that was approved at the August meeting. An additional sandwich board may be ordered, expenditures will remain under budget. Facebook communications are being done.
- **Lake monitoring update** – Most recent DEP results were slightly higher in cell count than previous testing. Algae results:
 - **Beach area/Dock Station** – Cell count 53,500 – Watch Level
 - **North station** – Cell count 82,000 – Advisory Level
 - **Mid station** – Cell count 66,500 – Watch Level
 - **South station** – Cell count 77,000 – Watch Level

Toxin levels were good. Phosphorus levels continue to be higher at lower depths, which is to be expected. Testing will likely continue through November.

- **Solitude chemical/treatment safety inquiry** – Toxicology professor at Rutgers was contacted. He reached out to contacts/resources to see if they can assist. Pending responses.

New Business:

- **Garden and Wildflower patch photo library** – The idea of using an app with a QR code for flower identification was discussed. Members agreed that would be good in conjunction with a sandwich board poster because cell service is not always good by the lake.
- **Yard Waste Removal** – Leaves/yard waste removal poses an ongoing issue around the lake, as the goal is to keep yard waste out of the water. Options were discussed. Perhaps we can collaborate with the Mountain Lake Community Association to find a solution. Larry will look into options through the County dump. Rich will look into the name of the local farmer who agrees to take the “muck” from the lake.

Additions to New Business:

- **Lake Management Grant - Senate, No. 3618** – The NJ Assembly passed a bill making supplemental appropriation of \$10 million for grants for certain lake management activities for recreation and conservation purposes. Waiting for governor to sign and application to open. LTEC to discuss what project(s) grant money should be applied for.
- **Dam Removal Inquiry** – The town purchased land off Marble Hill Road. Town Engineer is obtaining permits to take the dam down. Project is pending permits currently.

COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS: None.

APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES: None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Doug made a motion to adjourn, Maureen seconded. Adjournment at 8:19pm.

NEXT MEETING October 21, 2021