

## **Holland Township Environmental Commission Minutes**

December 7, 2022 7 PM Meeting

Chairman Keady called the meeting to order. I call to order the December 7, 2022 Regular Meeting of the Holland Township Environmental Commission. Adequate notice of this meeting was given pursuant to the Open Public Meeting Act Law by the Environmental Commission Secretary by:

1. Posting such notice on the bulletin board at the Municipal Building.
2. Publishing the notice in the December 9, 2021 edition of the Hunterdon County Democrat
3. And faxing to the Express-Times for informational purposes only.

All recited the pledge of allegiance.

All were reminded to turn off their cell phones or put them in silent mode.

Members Present: Regina Barna, Jerry Bowers, Mike Keady, David Harrison, Davina Lapczynski, Dwight Pederson, and Land Use Administrator (LUA) Maria Elena Jennette Kozak.

Excused Absent: Committee Liaison Dan Bush, Ray Note, Township and Township Committee Alternate Liaison Thurgarland

Let the record show we have a quorum.

Minutes: The approval of the November 2, 2022 meeting minutes was tabled.

Community Forestry Management Plan – Ray Note, David Harrison, and Secretary Kozak

These are the 2022 Community Forestry Management Plan goals to which we are committed:

- 1) Plant a tree for Arbor Day
- 2) Track hours and expenditures for the Community Forestry Program
- 3) Identify and label individual trees on township properties
- 4) Continue and improve outreach efforts at community events
- 5) Complete annual training requirements (8 Continuing Education Units, AKA CEUs)
- 6) If funding is available apply for a Township Seedling Giveaway
- 7) Submit 2 tree or forest related articles to local and regional newspapers and to the township website
- 8) Begin implementing the Riparian Planting Project
- 9) Apply for a CSIP grant to implement a Green Stormwater Management System
- 10) Complete a Forest Inventory if CSIP funding has been received (this must be here in error since we already did the inventory)
- 11) Apply for CSIP funding to remove invasive species on township owned land
- 12) Adopt the Model Highlands Shade Tree Ordinance

David Harrison talked about the Annual report being due February 2023 and that he will work with LUA Kozak for submittal. LUA Kozak reminded everyone of the timeline and that we need the report completed by the end of January. The township committee needs to have this on the first February meeting agenda to authorize the mayor to sign the annual report for submittal. The EC will review the report in February. LUA Kozak will follow up with the Mayor's signature and submit to the state.

LUA Kozak reminded everyone that if they participate in a CEU program to please send her any confirmation of attendance so she can work with the state to make sure we receive the proper credits. David Harrison started discussing 2023 and will prepare the 2023 goal list once we have the 2022 accomplishment report

completed. More discussions took place about the Community Forestry Management Plan and the goals outlined in the plan.

Tree Map update – LUA Kozak is working with Dwight Pederson. The Google account has been created. Dwight Pederson will review this.

Trees of Holland changes to the website. A redesign is in the works.

Stormwater Education – Mike Keady, Jerry Bowers, Davina Lapczynski and Maria Elena Jennette Kozak –

Nothing new to report.

Highlands Conformance – Jerry Bowers, Mike Keady and Dwight Pederson. –More information will follow as updates are available. Discussion about the EC responsibility took place which circled back to there is nothing to report at this time as the professionals are working on proposals.

Community Education and Outreach – Jerry Bowers, Dwight Pederson, and Regina Barna –  
The EC webpage is: <http://www.hollandtownshipnj.gov/bds-committees/environmental-commission>.  
Everything will first go to someone on Community Education and Outreach for review and then to Secretary Kozak for distribution to the website or Facebook.

Guest Lecture Series is under Community Education and Outreach

Lecture Series –  
Regina Barna discussed moving forward with the 2023 program. An outline was presented. Discussion took place regarding dates and the availability of the Ridge. The Ridge is booked for specific evening programs. After much discussion, the following dates: April 26, June 28, July 19 and October 18 will be explored for the ridge. January 19 will be at the Municipal Building. June 28<sup>th</sup> is a trail walk. Once Regina Barna confirms dates then she will contact LUA Kozak to book dates at the RRCC. 2024 ideas include: pond maintenance, Duke Farm presentation,

Davina Lapczynski is working with LUA Kozak in developing a standard list for publicity as well as creating an email list from the sign in sheets was discussed and how to move forward with email lists.

Inventory of Fauna and Flora subcommittee - David Harrison, Dwight Pederson, Ray Note – David Harrison is working on a list of birds and trees etc.

Musconetcong River Management Council – Dwight Pederson  
Nothing new to discuss.

Public Comment: There was no members of the public present.

Board Comment:

- Hunterdon County Master Plan – meeting December 7, 2022 at 7pm – this is not something that the EC needs to comment on. All were welcome to attend the meeting. The Master Plan discussion took place. The County meeting was at the same time as this December EC meeting, so we could not attend.
- Holland Solar Decommission Plan discussion – Jerry Bowers requested that the decommissioning plan be distributed to the EC since the EC was instrumental in drafting the document. LUA Kozak will follow up.
- O’sakame Park - O’sakame improvements

- Mayor Bush and LUA Kozak are worked on ordering 2 benches and a kiosk. When available, an update will follow.
- Street Light Solar Project – Davina Lapczynski is working with the Township Committee on exploring a solar street light project. The goal is to help reduce our electric bill and provide continued safety. More information to follow.
- Holland Happenings
  - The newsletter has been received.

At 8:25 pm David Harrison made a motion to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted

*Maria Elena Jennette Kozak*

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Environmental Commission Secretary