

Chatham Township Environmental Commission
58 Meyersville Rd, Chatham, NJ 07928, 973-635-4600
Minutes of the Friday March 23, 2018

The meeting of the Chatham Township Environmental Commission convened at 7:28 pm on Friday, March 23, 2018, at the Township Municipal Building. In attendance were CTEC members Cara Feeser, Maureen Kelly, Christina Mott, Dot Stillinger and Steve Carroll – Member Green Team Subcommittee. Absent: Frank Esposito, Peter Gallagher, Matt Palmer, Jessica Romeo, Don Travisano and Township Committee Liaison Karen Swartz.

CTEC'S PURPOSE: To undertake projects and make recommendations concerning the protection or use of natural resources, including water resources and air quality, located within or directly affecting Chatham Township.

The Chatham Township Environmental Commission's goal is to provide a responsible environmental viewpoint to Township committees and boards and to undertake projects with a strong educational component in order to inform officials and residents about constructive actions that can be taken to preserve the environment.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT -- The meeting schedule for 2018 January 2019 is posted on the main bulletin board at the Township municipal building and on the Chatham Township website at www.chathamtownship.org. The public is cordially invited to attend all meetings including the Land Use Subcommittee, join the discussions and participate in projects.

APPROVED DATES FOR CTEC AND GREEN TEAM MEETINGS IN 2018 AND JANUARY 2019 Tuesday February 6, Tuesday March 6, Tuesday April 3, Tuesday May 1, Tuesday June 12 (avoid Primary Election day), no meeting in July, Tuesday August 7, Tuesday September 11 (avoid Labor Day), Tuesday October 2, Tuesday November 13 (avoid Election Day), Tuesday December 4, Tuesday January 8, 2019.

Maureen Kelly motioned to approve the February 6, 2018 CTEC and Green Team minutes and Cara Feeser 2nd, with all in favor.

GREEN TEAM MEETING (7:30-7:50) M. Kelly - Green Team Chair, J. Romeo - Green Team Vice Chair, Steve Carroll-member GT Subcommittee.

- Steve discussed recertification actions due for June 2018, which included (1) giveback prescription drug drop-off, (2) Wildlife Action plan and (3) library book sale. Additionally, addition of extra actions/points needed for "cushion". Prescription drug drop-off information to be added to CTEC webpage. The Climate Change Focus subcommittee will convene before the CTEC April 3 meeting.

ISSUES - PILGRIM PIPELINE, OFFSHORE DRILLING – Nothing new (dormant)

- Discuss urging the Township Committee to adopt a resolution opposing drilling off the New Jersey shore.

- Excellent pipeline regulation ordinance titled "Watershed Protection" was adopted by the Township Committee. Prohibits hazardous substance pipelines in the Great Swamp watershed.

- Visit <http://www.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=af162ec18761444b929957b8c82ab903>

for detailed Pilgrim Pipeline information developed by Drew professor Lisa Jordan and her students. The map is also on the EC website. Click anywhere on a map for information about that object.

SEEDLING DISTRIBUTION PROJECT SATURDAY APRIL 28 (Rain or Shine) 9-2 PM - Cara Feeser, facilitator

- Tree seedlings are available free through the NJ Tree Recovery Campaign. C Feeser suggests a possible CTEC project as follows:

- Decide on 5 different types of seedlings.

- A work crew of adults and kids-divided into shifts – Community Volunteers needed.

- A drive through location like the recycling center on a Saturday. People wouldn't even have to get out of their cars.

They could line up in their cars, place their order with a volunteer who would put together their order, and hand it to them on the way out.

- A total of 1000 trees for 200 people

- Wood chips or mulch from the compost area, dampened with water, would be perfect to keep the seedlings fresh.

Hopefully, we can get the DPW to help lay down a bed of material in advance.

- On the day before distribution, one or two people with a pickup truck could get the trees, and a couple of volunteers would be needed to organize them by species and arrange them in the damp mulch.

- Possible donation from ShopRite of paper bags.

- Check with DPW regarding leftover seedlings.

- Post to Facebook

RIVER CLEANUP WORKDAY 2018

- Riverbank Workday date will be Saturday, April 21, boat put-in will be Oakwood Park in New Providence.
- Discussed Task List. River Trail cleanup will be suitable for families. Stream cleanup will be restricted to those over 18 - must sign in and be checked for life jacket, no chain saws. Needed: research into which government entities have responsibility for the river.

GREEN VILLAGE POND CONSERVATION AREA

- Joe Basralian, Open Space Chair and volunteers continue to work on trail improvement and cleanup. Projects are available for Scouts and other service groups. Saturday, March 24, 9 a.m. walk through.

REPORTS

- EC Facebook page - C. Feeser
- Discussed that facebook is becoming an essential way of communicating and informing the community.

NOTES AND DISCUSSION

- New and very good NJDEP website for maps, parcels and environmental information at NJ-GeoWeb, <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/gis/geoweb splash.htm>. Use Internet Explorer.
- Morris County mapping utility at <http://morrisgisapps.co.morris.nj.us/apps/parcelsearcher.html>, hit Map and use the i tool. Gives information about each parcel and has aerials layer. Search for more detailed information about a parcel at <http://mcweb1.co.morris.nj.us/MCTaxBoard/>. Use Microsoft Internet Explorer for both.
- Possible projects for grants. Trails on the Green Village Pond Conservation Area and Kirby Meadow, Nash Field to Green Village Road.

RECENT LETTERS SENT

- February 2018. Memo to Board of Adjustment regarding unauthorized clearcutting on a Club Road parcel and request for conservation easement on the wetland transition area portion. Memo to Board of Adjustment requesting conservation easement on portion of a property being developed on Green Village Road which is almost entirely wetlands or transition areas.
- May 2017. Letter to the NJDEP regarding an application for vegetation removal on steep slopes in a wetland transition area.

MAIL RECEIVED

- ANJEC has a new Environmental Commissioners' handbook. Also on their website - <http://www.anjec.org/pdfs/EnvironmentalCommissionersHandbook-2017.pdf>
- Monthly financial report
- Minutes of recent meetings of the Long Hill Township and Chatham Borough Environmental Commissions

ADJOURN 8:47

Carolyn Scannelli
Minutes Secretary

