

**TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION  
GREEN TEAM ADVISORY**

APRIL 04, 2022

5:00 PM

Meeting began at 5:00 PM.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

• **ROLL CALL**

Diane B. Ambrosio	<u>    Absent    </u>
Thomas Leaming	<u>    X    </u>
Donald Lippincott	<u>    X    </u>
Kenneth Fekete	<u>    X    </u>
Lorraine Flohr	<u>    X    </u>
Thomas Freund	<u>    X    </u>
Patricia Mosier	<u>    X    </u>
Alt #1 Jack Henderson	<u>    Absent    </u>
Alt #2 Robert Knowles	<u>    X    </u>

**FLAG SALUTE**

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT – PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW JERSEY OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT, ADEQUATE NOTICE OF THIS MEETING WAS PROPERLY PROVIDED BY SENDING COPIES OF THE NOTICE OF MEETING TO TWO NEWSPAPERS, THE ASBURY PARK PRESS AND THE PRESS OF ATLANTIC CITY. THE NOTICE WAS POSTED AT THE OFFICE OF THE TOWNSHIP CLERK AND ON THE BULLETIN BOARD OF THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.

Meeting was officially turned over to Chairman Lippincott.

**REGULAR MEETING**

A motion to approve the meeting minutes, from the January 31, 2022 meeting, with minor changes recommended by the Commission was moved by Robert Knowles, and seconded by Patricia Mosier.

Diane B. Ambrosio	<u>    Absent    </u>
Thomas Leaming	<u>    X    </u>
Donald Lippincott	<u>    X    </u>
Kenneth Fekete	<u>    X    </u>
Lorraine Flohr	<u>    X    </u>
Thomas Freund	<u>    X    </u>
Patricia Mosier	<u>    X    </u>
Alt #1 Jack Henderson	<u>    Absent    </u>
Alt #2 Robert Knowles	<u>    X    </u>

**1. Correspondence**

There were four pieces of correspondence addressed to the Environmental Commission prior to the April 4<sup>th</sup> meeting: Meeting minutes from the Ocean County Environmental Agency meeting on September 16, 2021, East Coast Engineering NJDEP Land Use Application for Water Development, and two Kim Dixon

General Permit Notifications. Those pieces of correspondence were brought to the Commission meeting and made available if the Commission members wanted to review them.

Kenneth Fekete inquired about the list of correspondence to ask if the Commission is supposed to vote on these or what the purpose is for sending these letters to the Commission.

Secretary Bonfonti answered that the letter is a legal notification making the Commission aware of the application that was filed.

Chairman Lippincott stated that if there is something that a member of the Commission feels should be discussed they can certainly discuss it after review.

## 2. Old Business

Chairman Lippincott inquired about an update for where the Township is at with the application for Sustainable Jersey.

Secretary Bonfonti stated that the due date is May 22, 2022. She discussed that the Township's goal is to maintain its' current level of certification.

Chairman Lippincott discussed the next topic on the agenda: spotted lantern flies.

Thomas Leaming discussed that he did not believe that Ocean County was within the territory for the spotted lantern flies.

Kenneth Fekete discussed that the Certified Tree Expert for the county stated that these flies are in the area. Kenneth Fekete discussed that the experts from the county suggest that if you see the lantern flies you either need to stomp on them or scrape them off whatever trees or outdoor items they are on.

Lorraine Flohr stated that she had spotted lantern flies in her yard last year.

Thomas Leaming discussed that he read it is recommended to take a plastic card and remove the larva from the trees. He discussed that the officials are looking to impose that people who are moving material, such as pallets or landscaping materials, have a permit showing that they have examined the materials to prove there are no lantern flies.

Kenneth Fekete inquired on who would issue the permits.

Thomas Leaming answered that he was not sure.

## 3. New Business

Kenneth Fekete inquired if the group could discuss what projects they would like to look at for the upcoming year.

A discussion took place about the windfarm, and potentially having Orstead hold a presentation. Chairman Lippincott explained that if everyone is on board, the next step would be to propose the presentation to the Township.

A discussion took place pertaining to inviting the Township Attorney to a meeting. Chairman Lippincott explained that there are many considerations to factor into inviting a professional to a meeting. Chairman

Lippincott continued explaining that as an advisory committee the commission cannot pass laws, or ordinances, but rather make recommendations to the Township Committee. The commission discussed becoming members with ANJEC again.

Secretary Bonfonti discussed that the Township had a call in with ANJEC. If the commission is not members, the Township will renew their membership and obtain a copy of the handbook for the commission.

A discussion was held on why annual reports were not filed for the years of 2019, 2020, and 2021, and Kenneth Fekete inquired as to who is responsible for filing these reports moving forward.

Secretary Bonfonti answered that she will be responsible for filing the report at the end of 2022.

Chairman Lippincott answered that the period in question, the years 2019, 2020, and 2021, were covered by most of the pandemic and so the commission was not meeting. Chairman Lippincott also mentioned that the commission did receive a great report when they received the Statewide Award a few years prior and they are very proud of that.

Kenneth Fekete inquired as to why the commission would wait until the end of 2022 to produce old annual reports.

Committeewoman Dodd answered that there would be no meetings to report in the annual reports for 2019, 2020, and 2021.

A discussion was held regarding the annual budget, and how the commission would go about obtaining funds. For example, how would the commission obtain funding to attend a conference.

Chairman Lippincott answered that, historically, the Township has never had any issue funding the Commission's attendance at events that are within reason.

Kenneth Fekete inquired about having a work in progress report produced in the interim between meetings.

Chairman Lippincott answered that he feels that the progress being made between meetings is well encompassed in the agenda that is produced for each meeting. Chairman Lippincott continued that the agenda, and meeting, are then summarized in the meeting minutes produced after each meeting and then approved at the next meeting.

Committeewoman Dodd suggested that Chairman Lippincott should educate Kenneth Fekete on how the Environmental Commission was typically run prior to the pandemic.

Chairman Lippincott discussed how the Environmental Commission was extremely involved with the landfill when it was first introduced, the Environmental Commission initiated the Town Wide Clean Up weekend, the commission would hand out trees for Arbor Day, painted the storm drains, and was very involved in Camp Lighthouse when it began. Chairman Lippincott continued explaining how the commission was very involved with the fertilizer program and education on that.

Bob Knowles discussed how the Environmental Commission has also run community programs such as: Reclaim the bay.

Lorraine Flohr inquired if it would be possible to volunteer for the town-wide Clean Up Weekend scheduled for June 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>.

Thomas Leaming discussed how he believed the commission’s involvement in the Clean Up Weekend had been limited due to the pandemic, and that they should readdress their involvement for the upcoming weekend.

The Environmental Commission held a discussion about the decommissioning of the Oyster Creek Nuclear Powerplant, and fines that were charged to them in December of 2021.

Chairman Lippincott closed with a piece of news from Washington discussing that in 2026 all new vehicles will have to get 49 miles per gallon or better.

Motion to Open for Public Comment:

Chairman Lippincott motioned to open meeting to the public. Seconded by Tom Freund.

All in Favor: \_\_\_\_\_X\_\_\_\_\_ Opposed \_\_\_\_\_NONE\_\_\_\_\_

Motion to Close Public Comment:

Chairman Lippincott motion to close meeting to the public. Seconded by Tom Leaming.

All in Favor: \_\_\_\_\_X\_\_\_\_\_ Opposed \_\_\_\_\_NONE\_\_\_\_\_

Motion to Adjourn

Tome Leaming made a motion to Adjourn. Seconded by Robert Knowles.

All in Favor: \_\_\_\_\_X\_\_\_\_\_ Opposed \_\_\_\_\_NONE\_\_\_\_\_

Signed and Submitted:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Amanda Bonfonti, Secretary  
Environmental Commission

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date