

HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Hopewell Township Municipal Offices
590 Shiloh Pike
Bridgeton, NJ 08302

Meeting Minutes

March 8, 2023

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the meetings were advertised in the South Jersey Times and The Daily Journal on February 14, 2023. A notice was also placed on the Hopewell Municipal Office bulletin board as of the same date. The meetings are in compliance with Chapter 231 P.L. 1975 (The Sunshine Act).

Members present for the regular in-person monthly meeting:, Cheryl Lalancette, Jerry Lewis, Burt Doremus, and Ken Strait. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm, followed by a reading of the Public Meetings Act statement.

I. Approval of minutes

The meeting minutes from January 11, 2023 were approved unanimously.

II. Land Use Board

J. Lewis reported that an application was submitted at the April meeting for a minor subdivision at the Shoemaker property to subdivide the house and building from the main property. Fifty-seven acres will be put in Farmland Preservation.

III. Old Business

CAWA-B. Doremus reported the following upcoming events:

March 25-Bridgeton Clean-up

April 16-Hopewell Park Hike

July 13-Overdevest Nursery is sponsoring a tour of their greenhouse operation.

Newsletter-The HTEC members continue to be pleased with the newsletter produced by M. Carll.

Pollinator Garden-J. Hankins reported that planting will take place at the end of April and/or the beginning of May.

Environmental Challenge-C. Lalancette sent a letter to Julie Stanger at Hopewell Crest School to discuss the program. The letter was forwarded to the advisors of the Earth Club, and she is awaiting a response.

Private Well Outreach Program- A public presentation of the program results will be presented at the April 12 meeting of the HTEC.

2023 Budget- Approval is pending.

2023 Projects

Environmental Resource Inventory (ERI) Assessment-The Land Use Board is doing a 5-year review of the master plan. There was considerable discussion on whether the Environmental Commission should weigh in on the review concerning the impact of climate change and how the resulting sea level rise could affect land use in Hopewell Township. Additional discussion centered on the lack of a tree ordinance in the township. It was decided to have future discussions concerning the ERI.

IV. New Business

Barrett Run Park- B. Doremus and J. Lewis met with members of the American Littoral Society at the Barrett Run Park to discuss park conditions. Maintenance is the responsibility of the township, but the Littoral Society offered to remove the fencing and cut down the trees and invasives in the grasslands. J. Lewis will discuss fence disposal with the Township Committee. The HTEC should plan the type of future grasslands and the maintenance for cutting, mowing, and possibly burning to control invasives.

Items purchased for Hopewell Day are in the Township building. J. Lewis labeled all items and placed them in a closet.

Hopewell Township calendars have arrived. Two versions were completed. One features the 275th year anniversary of the Township, and the other has the students' artwork with the HTEC poster on the back page.

HTEC is not listed as a member in the ANJEC publication. J. Lewis will follow up on this.

There was discussion of a possible gathering with other local Environmental Commissions.

Tom Tedesco will tentatively attend the June HTEC meeting to discuss Storm Water Regulations.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.

Submitted by Beth McClain, secretary, based on notes taken by J. Hankins
April 5, 2023