

CHATHAM BOROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
October 10, 20188:00 p.m.

Chairwoman Kate Murphy called this Regular Meeting of the Chatham Borough Environmental Commission to order at 8:00 p.m. in Room 212, middle level, Chatham Borough Hall. Chwmmn. Murphy announced that all legal notices had been posted for this meeting.

The roll call was taken:

Name	Present	Absent
Kate Murphy, Chwmmn.	X	
John Tancredi		X
Ben Lampert	X	
John Dey	X	
Patricia Soteropoulos	X	
Kevin Murphy	X	
Torri Van Wie	X	
Joseph Treloar		X
Kyle Muir		X
Council Member Len Resto	X	
Liz Holler, Minutes Secretary	X	

Also present:

Susie Robertson, a member of the Green Team

Public Comments

There were none.

Motion to Adopt Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the September 12, 2018 meeting were approved as amended.

Discussion Items

Recycling

Ms. Robertson discussed the Recycle Fest that she and Council Member Resto had attended in New Providence. She noted that this event was run by the Sustainable New Providence group. The event had been described as a giant garage sale where everything was free. Residents can pick up items at this Fest that would normally be put out for curb collection, thus ultimately filling up more landfills. People as far away as Brooklyn attended this event. Ms. Robertson will be attending a review meeting of this event. She had a list of questions to ask the organizers. Hopefully a similar recycle fest could be held next year in Chatham. Ms. Robertson pointed out that the items that are donated to a recycle fest cannot be useless junk. They are checked for functionality.

Summing up, Ms. Robertson said she will report back to the Commission after the review meeting. Perhaps an event like this could be organized for Chatham Borough in the new year.

Planning Board Liaison Report

Mrs. Van Wie reported that the Board is considering a minor subdivision application for property belonging to Ogden Memorial Church.

Council Member Resto alerted Commissioners that an update will be given on Post Office Plaza Development Plan at the Borough Council Meeting on October 22nd. Different concepts for the plaza will be put on display for the public. Topology will be giving the presentation. The public is invited to give their views on Planet Civic.

Mr. Dey asked about the response on Planet Civics' Marijuana Survey for Chatham Borough. Council Member Resto answered that there were 36 responses so far. He suggested information on the survey be announced in the local newspapers. Residents must register on PlanetCivic.com to participate in the survey. Commissioners discussed how to effectively alert and urge residents of this survey. Council Member Resto will inquire if Alert Chatham Borough could be used.

Mr. Dey suggested that Robin Kline, the Borough Clerk, be informed of the Marijuana Survey. Ms. Kline could insert information under the Events section of the Borough website.

Mrs. Van Wie reported that nine responses came in for the survey asking about what the public would want to hear about from the Environmental Commission. One respondent wanted more information on recycling. Council Member Resto noted that the MUA will be notifying the Borough soon on acceptable and nonacceptable items for recycling. When the Borough receives this updated list, Recycle Coach can then be set up for residents to use.

Borough Council

Council Member Resto reported that Sustainable Jersey has awarded their Silver Certification to Chatham Borough. This year Chatham Borough obtained 620 points for Sustainable Jersey.

Organic Landscaping on Borough Property

Mr. Dey suggested Council Member Resto report on the meeting he had with Chatham Township on this matter.

Council Member Resto reported that he had spoken with the Chatham Township Administrator, Mr. Ciccarone, and had obtained a copy of the Township's contract with Lincoln Landscaping.

Council Member Resto suggested that Commissioners organize a presentation to the Borough Council to explain the benefits of organic landscaping over the use of pesticides. The Commission could also recommend that no treatment be done on Borough properties. This course of action is taken by the Board of Education on the athletic fields.

Mr. Dey suggested, to help with this presentation, Commissioners walk the Borough fields to see what condition they are in. He also suggested a Commissioner(s) could meet with Mr. Torello, the DPW Director, and hear about the two pilot programs that were done.

Mr. Dey suggested the Commission hold a conference call with Mike Kolenut of Lincoln Landscaping. Commissioners could tell Mr. Kolenut where things stand with this organic

landscaping project and ask him any questions they may have. Mr. Kolenut's input would help the Commission's presentation. Council Member Resto felt that was a good idea and should be pursued soon.

Council Member Resto stated that he will meet with Mr. Torello and Borough Administrator. He will find out what possible dates would be available to give his presentation to the Borough Council. He will also run these dates by Mr. Dey and Ms. Soteropoulos.

Mr. Dey reported that he has compared contracts for both Borough and Township fields. Chatham Township does not use square footage; however, bags of fertilizer are mentioned. In comparing bags of fertilizer to what Lincoln Landscaping proposes for Chatham Borough, the Borough prices are \$2,000 more than the Township. Mr. Dey felt further negotiations could be done with Lincoln Landscaping.

Mrs. Van Wie recommended that the Borough Council be reminded that, as well as it being a budget situation, in a broader sense, pesticide use is harmful to youngsters and the honey bee population.

Commissioners discussed how the presentation to the Council be organized. First the dangers of pesticides could be given, followed by the options that could be pursued. Council Member Resto will contact Mr. Torello of the Public Works and Borough Administrator Williams.

Electric Cars

Mrs. Van Wie recommended that the Borough should be ready to put down lines for charging stations. Council Member Resto will see if there are grants available for charging stations. Mrs. Van Wie will do research on some websites on obtaining funding for a charging station at the train station.

Environmental Commission Newsletter

Commissioners discussed two possibilities - doing an electronic newsletter or putting Commission news on the EC Facebook. Perhaps approved meeting minutes could be put on the EC Facebook. News items from the Green Team could be reported on the EC Facebook. Ms. Soteropoulos suggested the number of points for Sustainable Jersey could be reported. Ms. Robertson suggested a blurb could be done about the Recycle Fest that she and Council Member Resto had attended. Ms. Soteropoulos recommended that the EC Facebook should alert the public as to what date the Commission will be giving their organic landscaping presentation to the Borough Council.

Commissioners discussed which Council Meeting they should shoot for to give their organic landscaping presentation.

Pilgrim Pipeline

Council Member Resto reported that this matter is quiet at the moment.

Chwmn. Murphy noted that a two-week hunger strike is being held in Trenton NJ to protest the installation of pipelines in general.

Boy Scouts

Mr. Tancredi wasn't present to give this report.

At 9:08 p.m. the meeting adjourned.

The next Environmental Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 14, 2018, 8:00 p.m., Room 212, middle level, Borough Hall.

Respectfully submitted:

Liz Holler
Recording Secretary

cc: Mayor Bruce Harris
Chatham Township Environmental Commission