

July 11, 2019

The July 11, 2019 meeting of the Mansfield Township Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Chair Paul Tarlowe, held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act of 1976, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Present were Paul Tarlowe, Kathy Todd, Robert Jewell, Marin Martin, James McMekin and Ruth Pante. Glenn Todd was excused. Dawn Smith was absent.

Minutes

Mr. McMekin reported he was present for the June meeting but his name is not included; also, Ms. Panté was excused. Approval of the minutes for the May meeting had been deferred for one month pending corrections and additions. It was MOVED by Ms. Martin to accept and approve the minutes of the May and June meetings as amended, seconded by Mr. Jewell. All in favor.

Mail

Several items of very old mail directed to the Environmental Commission have just arrived in the mail slot; four envelopes were certified mail with the return receipt card removed. Three of them are wetlands permit applications requested by the applicant; the fourth is a wetlands permit application for a county bridge at Valley Road over Pohatcong Creek and is dated March 13. All were reviewed even though it was past the response time. Mr. Tarlowe said he would look into why the Environmental Commission mail was not being made available in a timely manner.

Environmental Issues

Reporting for the Land Use Board, Mr. Jewell said the Columbia Too junk yard has not presented its site plan. The Agenda for next Monday's meeting includes a request for a subdivision application where the cell tower is located at the rear of the car lot. A single driveway is suggested for the two properties.

ANJEC 2019 GRANT – Bee Education and Community Propagation Network Proposal

This event is planned for July 13 but may be cancelled because Township Committee approval has not yet been given for placement on any municipal property. Placement of bee nest boxes is planned for Well Sweep Herb Farm, the Mt. Bethel Christmas Tree Farm and at the Pequest Trout Hatchery; 10 to 12 huts are planned on three or four locations. Ms. Martin displayed a 6 ft. trellis with a nest box containing reeds set in PVC pipe. Mr. McMekin offered assistance affixing the trellises. Each hut will be monitored. A team meeting is set for 9:30 a.m. Saturday at Cafferata Park to install boxes.

Mushroom Growing Primer – edible mushrooms

While at Rogers Trucking Mr. McMekin saw mushrooms growing from a mixture of straw and sand that Mr. Jewel has been cultivating. Wood chips are available at no charge. The business owner will be invited to attend a mushroom workshop in the future.

It was MOVED by Mr. Jewell to adjourn at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth A. Panté

Next meeting date:

August 8, 2019