

September 11, 2014

The September 11, 2014 meeting of the Mansfield Township Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by Chair Ruth Pante, held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act of 1976. Present were James McMekin, Glenn Todd, Elaine Drazek and Ruth Pante.

The Green Team meeting for this evening was cancelled.

Members present reviewed an application for wetlands determination submitted by Trout Unlimited for property in Lebanon Township. Members present had no comments.

Mr. Todd reported no sightings of bears at this time, but the bluebirds are gathering. He has seen hundreds of dragon flies gathering, an unusual site in New Jersey.

Ms. Drazek reported Princeton did research on dragon fly migration that showed swarming is unusual and difficult to predict. Their final destination was never discovered, but it was learned that they fly one day, rest one day, then fly again on the third day. Transmitters were glued to their wings to check their progress. The data suggests the dragon flies have rules to follow. They prefer to move with light wind; a mass migration could fly 700 km or 435 miles, and they were tracked as far south as Virginia and West Virginia.

Mr. McMekin said there will be a climate march at the U.N. on September 21 which he hopes to attend. The Sierra Club has arranged for buses to the event. This will be the biggest climate march ever, the first day of a world summit on climate.

Mr. McMekin reported attending the Musconetcong Watershed Association meetings (he is an alternate member). The Musconetcong is being cleared of the dams, work will be needed after the dams are removed. A discussion of dam removal followed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth A. Pante

**Next meeting date:
October 9, 2014**