

CHATHAM BOROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
July 13, 2016 8:00 p.m.

Chairwoman Kate Murphy called this meeting of the Chatham Borough Environmental Commission to order at 8:04 p.m. in Room 212, middle level, Chatham Municipal Building. Mrs. Murphy announced that all legal notices have been posted for this meeting.

Name	Present	Absent
Kate Murphy (Chair.)	X	
John Tancredi	X	
Ben Lambert	X	
Brendan Keating	X	
Carl Cappabianca		X
John Dey	X	
Wolfgang Robinson		X
Billy Conlan		X
Council Member Len Resto	X	
Kevin Murphy	X	

Public Comment

No one came forward.

Resolution #16-10

The minutes of the Environmental Commission meeting for June 8, 2016 meeting were approved as amended.

Correspondence

Chrmn. Murphy distributed a copy of a Borough Council Resolution adopted at the Borough Council Meeting held on July 11, 2016. Chrmn. Murphy and Commissioners discussed Resolution #16-247: Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Letter of Intent for the Submission of a Morris County Trail Construction Grant Program Application for the Construction of Phase One of the Chatham-Summit Loop Trail.

Commissioners discussed what could be accomplished, trail-wise, if the grant money was awarded to Chatham Borough.

Mr. Tancredi felt that once the formal proposal is written up, an endorsement will be needed from the Environmental Commission. The Commission will probably have future discussions on the grant and the proposed loop trail.

The Letter of Intent must be submitted on or before July 29, 2016.

Liaison Reports
Planning Board

In Mr. Robinson's absence, Ms. Holler reported that the Board is still considering a minor subdivision being proposed for 150 Center Avenue. An existing house at that address will be demolished and two new homes are being proposed. The Board is listening to the concerns of the neighbors living close to the site. A third hearing will be held on Wednesday night, July 20th.

Borough Council

Council Member Resto was not yet present.

Boy Scouts

Mr. Tancredi reviewed the Eagle Scout projects both proposed and works-in-progress in the Kelley's Pond area. Erik Britt is supposed to be installing his benches and picnic table near the pond. Another Boy Scout is considering constructing a "companion" set of benches and a picnic table on the other side of the pond.

Rain Garden

Mr. Cappabianca was not present to give this report.

Pending Business

Farmer's Market Booth

Commissioners decided to look into setting up a booth on Saturday, September 24th and a Saturday in October.

Environmental Badge Award

Chrmn. Murphy reported that Council Member Resto wants to keep this program alive. Mr. Tancredi suggested expanding the scope of the Environmental Badge to now have contractors nominated for outstanding environmental work. Mr. Keating nominated a local business.

Explore Chatham

Mr. Dey indicated that he hasn't heard from Mr. Conlan lately. Mr. Keating suggested asking Mr. Conlan if the current Pokemon could include local landmarks, like Kelley's Pond, Shepard Kollock Park. Mr. Keating explained how Pokémon worked.

Commission Website

Chrmn. Murphy felt that the website could be made more interesting. This service could post environmental-related articles on a regular basis. The Commission could keep track of how many visitors there are to the site with this new arrangement.

Plastic Bag Initiative

Mr. Lambert reported that he is still working on this project. Benches can be made from recycled plastic bags. Mr. Lambert suggested that three collection sites could eventually be set up in the area for the collection of bags.

Use of Pesticides

Mr. Dey reported that he had attended a recent Shade Tree Commission Meeting to inquire about the pesticide being used to treat the ash trees for the Ash Borer disease. Mr. Dey had been concerned that a nicotinoid was being used, which is harmful to bees. He was informed by the Shade Tree Commission that another type chemical was being used that was supposedly less

harmful to bees. Mayor Harris had written a note to Mr. Dey stating that the Ash trees had already been treated with this chemical, by injection. Mayor Harris believed that this chemical was safe to use.

Volunteers for Sustainable Jersey

Chrmn. Murphy suggested that the Commission have a volunteer sign-up sheet at their Farmer's Market table, asking for volunteers to help work on the next Sustainable Jersey Certification. Council Member Resto noted that 2018 is the next certification. The Commission should start collecting the necessary photo, data, etc. way in advance when they apply again for the Silver Certification.

Wellness/Sustainability Fair – Sept. 10th

Chrmn. Murphy reported on a recent meeting on the Fair. The Environmental Commission will have a booth.

Flyer for Safe Medication Disposal

Mr. Murphy asked for guidance on designing a flyer directing Borough residents on where to safely dispose of old medications. The Chatham Township Police have a suitable flyer. Commissioners suggested Mr. Murphy visit the Township Police to discuss using this brochure.

As a last item of business, Council Member Resto read the following resolution: The Community Volunteer Award and Commendation for Kate Murphy:

Whereas Kate Murphy has volunteered and worked as a volunteer above and beyond the usual dedication of Borough Volunteers;

Whereas Kate Murphy has served as Chair of the Environmental Commission, a member of the inaugural Green Initiatives Committee, and a member of the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Pilgrim Pipeline;

Whereas Kate Murphy has spent innumerable hours working tirelessly to encourage sustainability and green practices in Chatham, and was instrumental in having Chatham qualify as a Silver Certified Municipality under the Sustainable Jersey Program,

In Addition to raising awareness of the Environmental Commission;

In Addition, Kate has been a Tireless Proponent for Chatham's citizens, as respects to the proposed Pilgrim Pipeline;

Whereas Kate Murphy continues to work diligently as Chair of the Environmental Commission and promote the Commission by the Eco Film Series and the Environmental Badge; and

Whereas Kate Murphy is admired for her strong work ethic and diligence by who meet her in the Borough;

Now therefore, I, Bruce A. Harris, Mayor of the Borough of Chatham, on behalf of myself and the Chatham Borough Council do hereby commend Kate Murphy for her extraordinary achievement and devotion as a volunteer to make this award and commendation; on this 11th day in June, 2016.

Bruce A. Harris, Mayor of the Borough of Chatham

The Commissioners heartily endorsed this resolution.

At 9:06 p.m. the meeting adjourned.

The Commissioners decided to cancel their August 10, 2016 meeting.

The next Environmental Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 14, 2016, 8:00 p.m., Room 212, middle level, Chatham Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted:

Liz Holler
Recording Secretary

cc: Mayor Bruce A. Harris