

CHATHAM BOROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

May 9, 2018

8:00 p.m.

Chairwoman Kate Murphy called this Regular Meeting of the Chatham Borough Environmental Commission to order at 8:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Upper Level, Chatham Borough Hall. Chrmn. Murphy announced that all legal notices had been posted for this meeting.

The roll call was taken:

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

Also present:

Dr. Rozella G. Clyde, member of the Borough's Green Team

Public Comment

Dr. Clyde commented that the program held at the Library last Saturday, was a very successful event. Council Member Resto estimated that at least 36 people participated, which is a good number.

Motion to Adopt Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes of April 11, 2018 were approved as amended.

Reports/Pending Business

Planning Board

Chwmn. Murphy gave Mrs. Van Wie's report. Mrs. Van Wie had informed her that two new homes were being constructed on North Summit Avenue. Mrs. Van Wie had asked the developer to install energy efficient appliances in the homes, as well as LED lighting. The developer agreed with these requests.

Borough Council

Council Member Resto reported that 1,000 saplings were planted by volunteers this past Saturday at the new Riverside Trail. Twenty people showed up to work on this project.

Organic Lawn Care

Mr. Dey reported that he and the sub-committee had reviewed the contracts for Tru- Green and Lincoln Landscaping for the fertilizing of Borough grounds. He noted that the Lincoln Landscaping estimate was considerably more than TruGreen's. There is not enough money in the budget to hire Lincoln Landscaping. Today contracts were received from Lincoln Landscaping giving the costs for the lawn at Borough Hall and the Library lawn. Mr. Dey said that Council Member Resto will propose these costs at an upcoming Borough Council meeting, for the Council's consideration.

Council Member Resto thanked Mr. Dey and the subcommittee for all their work on this project.

Energy Fair

Chwmn. Murphy reported that the Fair was very successful.

MCMUA Recycling Tour

Council Member Resto, Mr. Dey, and Chwmn. Murphy participated on this tour on May 3rd at the MCMUA Facility at Mine Hill, NJ. Council Member Resto explained how the tonnage is calculated on each recycling truck. He also reviewed the assembly line process at the facility that sorted out the recyclables. Mr. Dey pointed out that the MCMUA now says it's alright to leave the plastic caps on water bottles when they are deposited for recycling.

Council Member Resto offered to arrange for another tour of the facility for those Commissioners who missed the May 3rd tour. Please let him know if you're interested.

Commissioners discussed the recycling of Styrofoam. Ms. Soteropoulos noted that the Styrofoam must be clean from all food. She also reported that both St. Paul's Church and St. Patrick Church are collecting plastic grocery bags to earn Trex benches. Ms. Soteropoulos suggested that an announcement of these collection points be put on the Commission website.

Presentation on Ticks

Chwmn. Murphy announced that on Wednesday night, May 16th, a presentation will be given on ticks by Stephanie Singer. This presentation, at the Library, is being sponsored by both the Township and the Borough Environmental Commissions. Mr. Dey suggested listing this presentation on the "News and Events" column on the Borough website.

Madison Community Event

Chwmn. Murphy reported on this Madison event that she had attended two weeks ago at Drew University. Students, at all levels, gave excellent environmental presentations. Perhaps in April 2019 a similar program could be done in the Chathams.

Green Faith

Mr. Murphy reported that there are six houses of worship in the area that have been involved in the plastic bag collection program. Volunteers from these congregations have been involved in the Passaic River Trail Maintenance work. Also, a direct install program is being done for houses of worship. Mr. Murphy also discussed the recent Earth Day Fair held by Celgene in

Summit NJ. At the Fair it was shown how plastic inadvertently enters our drinking water and laundry water. Mr. Murphy felt the Green Faith program was productive and well done.

Sustainable Jersey Silver Certification

Chwmn. Murphy reported that Margie Lowe has given her an update on what items have been done and which still need to be done to obtain the Silver Certification.

Commission Facebook

Mr. Lampert reported that Mrs. Van Wie had posted information regarding her Green Energy Fair. He will be including info on the plastic bag collection being done by the churches. The upcoming Tick presentation could be posted. Mr. Lampert discussed with Commissioners how to submit EC articles to Tap into Chatham. Council Member Resto suggested submitting photos to go along with the submitted articles to Ed Barmakian.

Pilgrim Pipeline

Council Member Resto had nothing new to report.

Boy Scouts

Mr. Tancredi was not present to give this report.

Before adjourning, Mr. Dey reported on the electric leaf-blower recently purchased by the Commission for the DPW.

At 8:50 p.m. the meeting adjourned.

The next Environmental Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 13, 2018, 8 p.m., Room 212, Chatham Borough Hall.

Respectfully submitted:

Liz Holler
Recording Secretary

cc: Mayor Bruce A. Harris
Chatham Township Environmental Commission