

WWT ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

November 9, 2023

The November 2023 meeting of the WWT Environmental Commission was held on Thursday, November 9, 2023 via Zoom with Ephraim Buhks calling the meeting to order at 7:31pm.

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE

Pursuant to the Sunshine Law, a notice of this meeting's date, time, place and agenda was mailed to the news media, posted on the Township bulletin board, and filed with the Municipal Clerk.

ROLL CALL

Members: E. Gordon; L. Katz; S. Parratt; I. Singh; E. Buhks;

Liaison: D. Dobromilsky Advisor: D. Parris; Council Liaison: Andrea Mandel, WWT Council President

Guests: S. Bristol, Watershed Institute R. Weintraub, WWT Resident

PUBLIC COMMENT – Susan Bristol, Municipal Policy Specialist for the Watershed Institute, shared a PowerPoint presentation on Municipal Stormwater Community Engagement for Environmental Commission and Green Team Engagement. In January 2023, all NJ municipalities previously considered Tier B under the Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer System (MS4) permitting program have been reclassified as Tier A and therefore subject to the MS4 Tier A permit regulations. The Inland Flood Protection rule became effective July 17, 2023 and ensures that areas at most significant risk are better defined utilizing current storm data and future projections. The IFP Rule would ensure that new and reconstructed assets in these areas are designed and constructed using the best available climate-informed precipitation data. Additional topics discussed included MS4 updates for 2023 such as municipalities developing a Watershed Improvement Plan (WIP), updating or adopting tree replacement ordinances, and requirements for implementing and maintaining a municipal stormwater webpage. D. Dobromilsky stated he forwarded a copy of this presentation to EC members to review more in-depth at their leisure. A. Mandel stated she recently attended the Watershed Institute seminar on Outfall Monitoring and how the public can be more involved. She encouraged the Watershed Institute to share the information with EC members for any future webinars as the information is beneficial to them as well as members of the public. E. Buhks requested that S. Bristol forward information about training, webinars and programming concerning the upcoming Stormwater Ordinance enhancements for municipalities to D. Dobromilsky as it becomes available.

R. Weintraub, WWT resident and former EC member, thanked S. Bristol for her presentation and expressed his appreciation of the information and programs provided by their organization.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: April 13, 2023 L. Katz motioned; E. Gordon seconded;
Minutes were approved as presented.

CONTINUING BUSINESS: Project Review/Update

Community Park Gardens and Meadow – S. Parratt stated that a second row of Eastern Red Cedar trees has been planted along the skate park fence line at the Rain Garden as previously discussed. He suggested creating a mulch bed between the two rows to alleviate mowing hassles which may be incurred by the township DPW during routine maintenance.

Planning Board – A. Baig was unable to attend the meeting. D. Dobromilsky reported that the final version of the Conservation Plan Element of the West Windsor Master Plan was presented and approved at the November 8, 2023, Planning Board meeting.

Township Council Update – S. Gawas was unable to attend the meeting. A. Mandel reported that the replacement of the metal roof for the Historical Society located at the Schenck Farmstead was approved. Bids received for the WWT Police roof replacement were above the threshold and the project will need to be rebid.

Several community events are scheduled in the next few weeks including the fire department's Breakfast with Santa on December 3, 2023 and the annual Township Tree Lighting ceremony on December 5, 2023.

Solar Energy – L. Katz reported the community solar energy program has been integrated into the Successor Solar Incentive (SuSI) Program. The SuSI Program provides incentives to eligible solar facilities to enable the continued efficient and orderly development of solar renewable energy generating sources throughout the state. Feedback from the public will be accepted until November 17, 2023 at which time it will be evaluated and integrated by the State. When the information and the program have been finalized he will provide an update to the EC.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Mandel reported that Tiger Transit recently held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for their electric charging station. This is the largest electrical vehicle charging location in New Jersey and one of the largest in the country. It is located on Alexander Road in West Windsor and is utilized for charging the seventeen Tiger Transit electric buses that service Princeton. D. Dobromilsky reported that WWT has taken possession of their first electric transit van and it has been fitted with WWT identification signage and placed into service.

Motion to adjourn by L. Katz, seconded by I. Singh. Meeting was adjourned at 8:53pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Samantha Tomaro, Administrative Secretary
WWT Environmental Commission