



LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP

ENVIRONMENTAL & GREEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Lawrence Twp., NJ

CLEAN AIR, LAND, AND WATER

MINUTES

October 22, 2019

Roll Calling: Teresita, Pam, Ed, Don, Noemi, Dionne, Dana

Call to order: Teresita called the meeting to order at 7:40pm

Minutes: Teresita distributed minutes of group's 9/24/19 meeting. Don moved to accept them as written, Dionne seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Approved of the 2020 meeting days: Teresita distributed the proposed list of ERGAC meetings for 2020. After some discussion, they were unanimously approved with Teresita's assurance that the July and August meetings will be cancelled per tradition with appropriate and timely public notification.

Public Comments: There was no other person in attendance and thus no comments.

Site Plan Review: Ed said he had no formal reviews to report on.

NJ Clean Energy Program for Small Business: Teresita noted that she and Dana would soon be meeting with the local Boy Scouts troop to recruit its interest in conducting door-to-door outreach to small area businesses regarding the NJ Direct Install program. Everyone agreed that this initiative should work far better than past outreach efforts.

Mercer County New Recycle Guide "Beyond the Bucket": Teresita distributed to committee members copies of the Lawrence Township pamphlet on recycling. She asked everyone to please read through it and compare it to the county's "Beyond the Bucket" booklet that was recently emailed to everyone by the Mercer County Sustainability Coalition. Pam said her quick glance at some of the county's listings did not include some Lawrence requirements. Teresita asked that members provide her with any other comments before the Coalition's meeting on Friday, Oct. 25, 2019, at which time she will share them.

Single-use Plastic Bags: Don reported that he attended a recent ANJEC conference, and he reminded members that between 83-85 NJ municipalities have passed single-use plastic bag ordinances. He added that ANJEC has a model ordinance that would be good for ERGAC members to review and consider. Pam said the committee should push for single-use plastic

bag requirements in Lawrence.

Noemi said she would obtain and distribute the ANJEC model ordinance to members. She also noted that West Windsor was on the verge of approving its own version. Dana added she would look at these, along with everyone else, and will share at the next meeting a comparison she completed on the proposed state assembly and state senate bills.

Silver Certification: Pam reminded every-one that Lawrence was recently “silver certified” by Sustainable Jersey. She added that an awards ceremony will be held Nov. 19, 2019 in Atlantic City where representatives from Lawrence and other certified municipalities will unite to celebrate. She plans to attend and urged any interested members to join her, and she noted that she’ll work with CentralJersey.com reporter Lea Kahn to see if local news can be generated regarding the event.

Pam added that ERGAC owes deep gratitude to Township Assistant Engineer Brenda Kramer for Brenda’s work in preparing the Lawrence certification application. It was an extensive task, Pam said, and ERGAC needs to formally thank Brenda for all she did. Dana will accordingly draft a letter for the ERGAC’s chairperson to sign and send. Pam also asked that the letter include an invitation for Brenda to attend ERGAC’s January 28, 2019 meeting to share recommendations for committee and township activities over the next three years.

Other Business: Pam said a meeting is scheduled for Oct.29, 2019 at 6:30pm in Town Hall for all available Sustainable Lawrence members to discuss possible joint projects with teachers and students involved in the “Seven Sustainable Schools Shine On” project. This initiative has been organized by teacher Cari Gallagher on behalf of the Lawrence Township Public Schools.

Don asked ERGAC members to thank Teresita for all her work in creating new letterhead for the committee as well as all the excellent informational fliers she provides continuously for committee use. The thanks were unanimous.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.

Respectfully,

Teresita Bastides-Heron, Vice-Chair

Approved by: