



LITTLE EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP  
**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**  
*from the Pastlands to the Bay*

**Little Egg Harbor Township Environmental Commission**  
**April 27, 2023**  
**Minutes**

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1. Meeting called to order at 6:40 PM
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. **Open Public Meeting Statement** This meeting is called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meeting Law. Notice of this meeting of **April 27, 2023** was duly advertised, posted in the Municipal Complex, and has remained posted as required underneath the aforesaid statute. The secretary is directed to include a record of this statement in the minutes of this meeting.
4. In attendance: Kathy Tucker, Arlene Keenan, Chuck Griffin, Erica Napolitano, Joe Rullo, Carol Evans, Roberta Rapisardi and Christine Moran for the **Green Team**  
Also Mayor Blaise Scibetta, Alternates Gabe Franco and Colleen Forest
5. Approval of minutes for March 23, 2023
6. **Earthday Cleanup Report** Roberta Rapisardi. It is estimated that approx 250 were in attendance. Many liquor bottles were found especially on Bridge Road. Estimated 1000 nip bottles and 600 larger bottles and cans for all of LEHT. It was suggested that Bass River State Forest might patrol Bridge Road area better.

Joe Rullo reported that many liquor bottles were discovered at MI Casino. Arlene suggested that this be reported to the LEH Board of Health. Blaise noted that we are not to go onto private property.

Roberta noted that the large number of bottles might be indicative of addiction issues. She is part of RJ Barnabas Health, Addiction & Prevention. The data collected from LEHT Cleanups may be an indication of other problems within the township.

Carol noted that there are more trees left over from Earthday. They will be made available at Spring Fling and Senior Expo.

**Spring Fling** , April 29, 2023, is run by Robert C. Wood Senior Early Childhood Center. Katy Baker has old Earthday tee shirts that we can pick up at LEHT town hall.

7. **Osprey Nests** Christine Moran reported that Ben Wurst of the Conserve Wildlife Foundation of NJ reported that it is preferred if the Osprey nests are in trees rather than atop of poles.

*See APPENDIX pg 4*

8. **Public Comments** Cynthia Varamo asked if we could have more signs on Great Bay Blvd for addiction and also for trash pick up. Also would like more signs for the terrapins Carol Evans will brainstorm with 2nd grade teacher Cynthia McFarland regarding a school project to create terrapin crossing signs.

Blaise stated that if we wanted to have a fund for projects such as these, we should consider speaking with Rodney Haines, finance officer, regarding setting up a trust for our use.

Blaise also noted that with the help of State Senator Jeff VanDrew, we have acquired \$2.3mil for Radio Rd safety improvements. To include sidewalks, curbs and handicap ramps. There is also a \$1mil federal grant for improvements at the LEHT Sports and Recreation Complex. This will include ADA access and walking paths, also a swing set and a gazebo over the batting cage, pickleball courts, bleachers and improving lighting.

9. **Environmental Commission Member Comments**

**Kathy Tucker** stated that the Tuckerton Environmental Committee inquired about how they could become more active like we are. Possibly getting involved with our Clean Up Days. She also may need some help with the Memorial Day Parade float.

**Chuck** suggested that we give some thought about how to keep our meeting times shorter. It was agreed that public comments should have no time limit but guest speakers should be kept to 30 minutes. Erica suggested that we all need to be mindful of the amount of time that we use.

**Erica** noted that a yellow tent was not available and we agreed on dark blue. Also, we need an email address. We agreed on EC@LEHT.COM

**Joe** feels that the new beach is filthy. He also feels that Walmart should be recognized for their help on Clean Up Days. Also stated that Roberta has done a great job with Clean Up Days.

**Carol** said that there are more trees available at the community center.

**Gabe** had an example for a brochure that we could use during our table events. Are there printing costs in our budget? Blaise suggested a rotating photo frame.

**Christine** Asked about signs at the new Mystic Beach. Blaise stated that signs are ordered along with a bike rack, a shed and a kiosk for posting notices.

3.

**Chuck noted the the Hometown Heroes Program was Great !**

**10. Adjourn**

**Upcoming Events**

May 27, 2023 LEHT Community Center Grand Opening

May 25, 2023 Next meeting 6:30 PM

May 29, 2023 Memorial Day Parade

July 15-16. 2023 Garage Sale

40

### **Addition to April Minutes**

A follow up phone call was made to a resident with an osprey nest question. There was a complaint about an osprey nest platform that was built on the marsh by another resident. Ben Wurst investigated the platform and reported that it was not built to spec. Since the platform had not been utilized by the osprey, it might be taken down. Anyone wanting to build a nest platform needs to obtain a permit from the DEP as they own most of the eligible marsh.