



LITTLE EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
Little Egg Harbor Township Environmental Commission
September 28th, 2023
Minutes

1. Meeting called to order at 6:36 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 **September 28th., 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: Chuck Griffin, Joe Rullo, Arlene Keenan, Erica Napolitano Roberta Rapisardi, Gabriel Franco, And Christine Moran for the **Green Team**
5. Approval of minutes for August 24, 2023
6. There are 2 nominations for the local **Environmental Hero**.
 - Gary Riswald of Osborn Island
 - Walmart Store #3830 , Mgr is Tim BrewinIt was voted on that the award goes to LEHT Walmart store for their continued help with our town clean ups.
The award will be presented at the Thursday, October 12, 2023 township meeting.
7. Roberta Rapisardi presented the plans for the **Community Wide Clean up, Oct 14,2023** . Tee shirts are designed. Color will be orange and we will go back to cotton. We will need clean up help after lunch. Be at the town hall at 8AM. Kick off is at 9 AM.

8. **Public Comments:**

Paradise Garden Development. Emily Walsh, MS asks for our support for her proposal to develop an open space at the Community Center.

There is 6000 sq ft of growing area there. Emily proposes....

- Organic vegetables
- A greenhouse
- Compost bin and rainwater collection
- A produce stand
- Educational workshop
- Nutritional food
- Birdhouses
- The public will be welcome to both plant and pick
- This would be a haven for wildlife, insects and birds
- The garden would have support of local businesses

Emily expects the annual cost to be between \$4K and \$8K, this includes her part time salary. She expects that grant money will be available.

-Growing season is 8 months per year.

-**Richard VanEyck**, former superintendent of schools, expressed his support and stated that the local school system is always looking for "hands on" projects for the students.

-**Melanie Thorn**, from the **Americore NJ Watershed Ambassador** program offered to assist with the project.

-**Mayor Blaise Scibetta** responded that it is a great idea but he is not sure how LEHT will pay for it.

9 **Environmental Commission Member Comments**

-**Christine** requested our email addy...EC@LEHT.COM. We also discussed the Barnegat Bay Partnership.

-**Blaise** A "smart power pole" is being installed at the rec complex. It will have 2 lights on top and be powered by both solar and wind. The mayor will be having a meeting tomorrow with AC Electric. At the rec center there will be extensive paved pathways around the soccer field for walking and exercise.

Blaise mentioned that the **League of Municipalities** will be having a meeting in the 2nd week of November and we can have 2 members attend.

-**Arlene** mentioned that the plaque in the hallway is not up to date.

-**Kathy** mentioned that preparations for the **Memorial Day Parade** will begin earlier because it requires more time. Also requested candy for the Halloween bash.

3.

-Joe Mystic Casino garbage cans have been replaced . Tavistocks new mgr is Rich
-Gabriel Asked which vendor should we use for the Hometown Heroes plaque.

Adjourn

Upcoming Events

Oct. 13, 2023 Halloween Bash
Oct. 14, 2023 Fall Clean up
Oct. 21,2023 Harvest Festival
Oct. 28, 2023 Trunk or Treat

Next meeting Thurs October 26 @ 6:30 PM