

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION Little Egg Harbor Township Environmental Commission December 28th, 2023 Minutes

- 1. Meeting called to order at 6:37 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 December 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: Kathy Tucker, Chuck Griffin, Arlene Keenan, Erica Napolitano, Joe Rullo, Gabe Franco, Colleen Forest and Christine Moran for the **Green Team**
- 5. Approval of minutes for October 2023 meeting 2023
- 6. Reorganization:

As of January1, Colleen Forest and Christine Moran will move up to regular Environmental Commission members.

Reorganization will be postponed to the January 25, 2024 meeting as per the suggestion of Joe Rullo.

Erica Napolitano announced that she will not be able to be part of the Environmental Commission during 2024.

7. League of Municipalities Kathy Tucker was able to attend these meetings and came back with a report and a bag of "swag".

We are entitled to **Ocean County Sustainability** pts for our involvement with the food pantry.

Permits are required when fire pits are used next to a wooded area.

Community Equity and Diversity Profile. "Diversity, equity and inclusion refers to organizational frameworks which seek to promote the fair treatment and full participation of all people." (Google) This is another opportunity for us to receive Sustainability pts.

Do local stores buy their produce from local sources? (pts)
Are we eligible for Sustainability points for our solar and windmill work?
Jason Worth has the specifications to be eligible for these points.

8 Public Comments

Cynthia Barano reported that they counted 225 terrapin nests along Seven Bridges Road.

Mayor Blaise Scibetta praised the work that is being done by the Environmental Committee and made special note of the Blue Bird project and the Terrapin project.

Blaise noted that while Sustainability pts are nice, town improvements are equally important. Blaise also explained that LEHT is well aware of people who choose to live in the woods. LEHT has help available for these people if they choose to request it. We can't force people to not stay in the woods unless the property owners post the land as private property.

9 Environmental Committee Members Comments.

Erica made a warm, wonderful "Thank You" speech for the work that we did over the past year.

Arlene "Thank You Erica!"

Joe Memories of Erica over the last year and a big Thank You.

Gabe "Thank You Erica"

Colleen "Thank You Erica. You've done such a wonderful job!"

Christine "Thank you Erica!"

Adjourn at 7:33 P

Next meeting Thursday, January 25, 2024