

HOLMDEL ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
Minutes – Regular Meeting
Wednesday, **June 14, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.**

Karen Strickland, Chairperson opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m., and Loretta Coscia read the following **OPENING STATEMENT**: “*I hereby announce, pursuant to Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided on January 13, 2022, to the Asbury Park Press and the Two River Times. Notice has also been posted in the entrance of Town Hall, filed in the Clerk’s Office, and posted on the Township’s website, www.holmdeltownship.com, all pursuant to Section 13 of the Open Public Meetings Act.*”

Roll Call

Present: Karen Strickland, *Chairperson*
Ralph Blumenthal
Randy Rauscher
Chiung-Yin Cheng Liu
Jill Perez
Janet Jackel, Alternate 1
John Galasso, Alternate 2
Loretta Coscia, Secretary

Absent: Tony Salerno
Gary Vanderham

Also Present: Mr. & Mrs. Wes Fagan
Mr. Joseph Tetro

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence to Honor Military, Police and First Responders

Environmental Commission Business

- Draft Meeting Minutes – May 10, 2023 – **Motion** by Ralph seconded by Janet to approve the minutes. Motion carried on voice vote by eligible members.
- Welcome and Introduction – Hazlet Environmental Commission Karen initially heard back from the Hazlet Environmental Commission, and they were interested in attending the Holmdel HEC meeting. Karen had not heard back from them and will reach back out for them to attend a future meeting.
- Collaboration with Holmdel Green Team and Newsletter topics
- Karen advised that the HEC and Green Team would be providing articles for publication in the township newsletter. Last month, the article written by Janet on preserving trees was published. She asked for ideas for upcoming and future topics of interest. Jill will be writing the next article on pesticides.
Upcoming article ideas as follows:
Janet – what happens to rainwater with impervious coverage.
Randy – Neonics and pollinators, land clearing and scraping of land; also maintaining septic systems.
John – drought and water supply; deer management
Jill – wind turbines and their effect on the environment

Wes Fagan – storm drains, catch basins/inlets – keeping them clean.

Janet – homeowner’s maintaining control of what landscapers do; grass-cutting and debris blown into the street; leaves put into catch basin.

Joe Tetro, a resident on Middle Road was present and inquired about the status of the stormwater report and stated it is seven months later, and still no report. Ralph said he spoke with the Engineer, Bob Mullin, who said the survey is taking a lot longer than anticipated.

John Galasso said that the Township is just studying Holmdel, back-up from Hazlet will be necessary.

Karen suggested Holmdel HEC to have a summit this fall with Hazlet and Middletown regarding their mutual flooding issues.

The commission members agreed that they would like Bob Mullin, PE to attend their next meeting on July 12 for a preliminary study on the stormwater plan thus far. Loretta would check the HEC budget, and then reach out to Bob Mullin. Karen would like to speak with him on what the HEC is looking to learn from his participation.

Ralph spoke about the recent Township Committee meeting regarding the Crawford Hill property and that the Township authorized a resolution to start the eminent domain process.

Adjournment

There being no further business at 8:45 p.m. **motion** by Ralph seconded by Randy to adjourn. Motion carried on voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Loretta Coscia

Loretta Coscia
Secretary

Proceedings recorded
Minutes approved July 12, 2023