

*This meeting was called to order at 7:40pm on Thursday March 28, 2019.*

**Attendance:** Michelle Cavalchire, Ray Simonds, Grace Mitchko, Jeff Vaccarella, Rezaul Karim, Jayne Gilbert, Kathy Hale

**Minutes:** Previous minutes approved from 2/7 and 1/15

**Public comment:**

- Barbara S shared information about protecting wildlife from hunting and industrialization

**Green Team:**

- Moe to work with Jeff as co-chair of the Green Team.
- The target will be the silver level of accreditation: The EC have to look into ways to attain more points via projects and initiatives.

**Community Forestry:**

- The annual accomplishment report was submitted – it is currently pending.
- To meet the CEU's annual requirement: The EC will send out a list of CEU's for members to work on.
- Memo's received:
  - There is a new web based system for grant applications are available from the New Jersey Urban and Community Forestry – Also there are two CEU opportunities posted.
  - The Right Tree Right Place seminar will take place April 12th @ 8am
  - The Sustainability Summit will take place in Holmdel on June 14 in Holmdel

**Open space-**

- The Carman cemetery which has 4 known gravesites, and possibly slave graves, may have an opportunity to be preserved.

**Treasurer**

- The 2019 budget is the same as last year @ \$750

**Planning board and board of adjustments**

- Regarding the Master Plan for Raritan TWP
  - The contracted planner put together the re-examination report, which examines the master plan. Information includes updates to data, major problems and objectives during the last master plan, update and extent, changes in policies, looking forward (recommendations), information (population change, school enrollment, household income, demographics, land use data, household size, employment status, transportation, where citizens work & industry), coalition for affordable housing status update
  - The changes recommended for master plan include (housing / open space –rec), limiting growth, conservation, land use ordinances, zoning changes, industrial and business, rezoning, Another part of master plan)

- Last night the Planning Board discussed need for the evaluation of the United States metal covers (settlement status active) to see if it counts as redevelopment- there is no residential element however noted.

### **Correspondence-**

- RCVD LOI Raritan town square holdings applying for DEP treatment works approval
- NJ forest service's selling bundles of tree's (unknown type): \$18 for 50 trees in Jackson – need to partner with nonprofit (project) to fundraise for trees
  - One option is the Raritan Township road clean up

### **Old business**

- Kyle Richter from RC&D reached out to the RTEC regarding a grant they have which can be used to build new create water gardens in the Neshanic Watershed (Lenape park)
  - Mr Richter will attempt to come first week in April to discuss further – we will need to establish ongoing maintenance
- Ray contacted both Daniel Correa (the watershed ambassador), and Erica Rossetti (past ambassador) – for assistance in any future rain garden projects.
- Regarding the dam removal project – there is no update –
- A Category 1 proposal has been published by the state. This is proposing the addition of more surface water areas to category 1, or anti-degradation water areas.

### **New business**

- Road clean up – RTEC is proposing a road clean up may 4 – road tbd.
- The Raritan TWP Community Day will be 9/28/19.
- Hunterdon County Earth Day will be April 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Recycle app – there's a new app for the phone about recycling called Recycle Coach.
- RTEC will plan to dispense information brochures regarding tick public health information.

### **Site plan review**

- Conclave brewery is requesting to add a sidewalk – there is an existing patio. There is no impact to wetlands noted. The Environmental Commission requests that they consider impervious pavement.
- Regarding Wawa
  - There is still a buffer encroachment noted- The stream buffer is 75 feet and inside the existing building / proposed building – The Environmental Commission is not in favor of this even though the project seeks to do restorative work to the stream during the construction.
  - There is a drainage easement but no conservation easement on C5
  - There are no rain gardens noted
  - The RTEC is concerned that recommendations for further investigation from the phase one have not been addressed.

### **Adjournment**

*This meeting was adjourned at 9:26pm on March 28, 2019.*