

**TOWNSHIP OF MEDFORD
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (EAAC)
MEETING MINUTES**

TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2023
MEDFORD TOWN HALL, 49 UNION STREET

I. Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm

Present: Pola Galie-Chair, Deb Evans-Vice Chair, Bob Lee, Alice Levas, Pam Sloves, Sandy Kruger, Bo Petrillo; Ileen Wright-Green Team; Beth Portocalis-Township Liaison

Absent: Paul Celia

Guest: Brian Pelloni-108 Himmelein Rd.

II. Review/approve minutes of April 2023 Meeting

- Bob Lee moved to approve the minutes and Ileen Wright seconded. Alice Levas recused herself. All in favor. Minutes accepted.

III. Public Comments (none)

IV. Old Business

- Sustainable NJ Certification-Silver Status Achieved!
Deb Evans gave an update on when we will need to submit our next application for certification. The committee will continue to look at documenting our activities as well as reviewing new actions added to Sustainable Jersey for continued certification.
- Green Team – Friends of the Green Team Meetings Update
Friends of the Green Team had a meeting on Wednesday 4/26/23 at Cranberry Hall to welcome new members and educate. Meetings are held the last Wednesday of every month with the next meeting to be held 5/31/23

Future projects for the Green Team: speak to the Medford Police about ATV's actively riding on open space and destroying plants and upsetting wildlife, a new member of the green team auxiliary will be writing an article about the ATV problem in the Medford Messenger as well as presentations to High School students. Plastics and environmental issues in protecting our planet ... Clinics on composting were all discussed as projects for the future.
- Trex Bench Project Update for Freedom Barks
We are still collecting the non-traditionally recycled plastics. There are drop off points at Freedom Barks when there is an event, the Senior Center at Cranberry Hall and Lower Forge Brewery when open.
- Grant Applications/Projects
 - 1) Sustainable Jersey PSEG Grant – submitted 2/10/23
This grant was not accepted. Pola & Beth will attend a “debriefing” meeting and will apply for the Atlantic City Electric Grant. Which, while a smaller grant, is worth applying for.
 - 2) NJ American Water Grant – submitted 3/31/23 (no response yet)
 - 3) ANJEC Grant – submitted April 17th (no response yet)
 - 4) Atlantic City Electric Grant (Due the end of June)

- ❑ Town Wide Yard Sale & Earth Day Event Wrap-Up.
Ways to increase attendance as well as participation is being discussed with the Woman's Club of Medford. It was suggested that we investigate having a breakfast/coffee type of food truck or other activity in 2024. Other suggestions included a banner at the entrance to the park posted earlier as well as starting to advertise earlier.

Monitor:

- ❑ Cross County Connection/DVRPC – pedestrian & cycling related assistance (no change)
- ❑ Community Composting Project
The EAAC will host another education program in the fall. The date and content will be determined but composting will be part of it.
- ❑ Bike Rodeo in coordination with Police Dept. (no update)
- ❑ ROSI – Complete Review and Recommendation (no update)
- ❑ NJ Future – Technical Assistance for FEMA Community Rating System/Flood Resiliency & Mitigation (no update)
- ❑ Green Product Education – Discussion/Continued promotions (ongoing). Articles for the Medford Messenger are always welcome for consideration.

V. *New Business –*

- ❑ National Trails Day – June 3rd
If there is sufficient time maybe a clean up somewhere could be organized but we are running out of time.
- ❑ Tree Grant from the Burlington County Bridge Commission – Beth Portocalis applied for larger trees to be planted along the Rancocas Creek to stabilize the soils along the banks.
- ❑ Burlington County Resource Conservation submitted a grant to the DVRPC & the Mayor sent a letter of support as this trail system has a leg in Medford. We will look into this further and see how we can partner on trails.
- ❑ Wildlife Interaction Plan – Bob Lee and Pam Sloves have been meeting with Medford Leas and a consultant. They are are looking at crafting a plan that will tie in with this Sustainable Action as well as National Wildlife Federation certification for the town.

VI. *Planning & Zoning Considerations*

- ❑ Review of Application Plans submitted to Planning & Zoning Office
the YMCA Camp application was reviewed for wetlands concerns by Bo Petrillo. He found no issues.

VII. *Next meeting* -- Tuesday, June 13, 2023

VII. *Adjournment*

There being no further business to come before the group. Bo Petrillo moved to adjourn, 2nd by Bob Lee. All in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm

Minutes taken by Alice Levas