

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

TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 2023 – 7:00 PM
MEDFORD TOWN HALL, 49 UNION STREET

I. Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm

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

Absent: Paul Celia, Pam Sloves

Guests: Brian Pelloni – Himmelein Road

II. Review/approve minutes of May 2023 Meeting

- Deb Evans moved to approve the minutes and Bo Petrillo seconded. All in favor. Minutes accepted.

III. Public Comments (none)

IV. Old Business

- Sustainable NJ Certification-Silver Status Award Plaque Found! Beth to advise possible placed for it to be hung, the most likely to be in the second-floor conference room of City Hall. .

Green Team – Friends of the Green Team Meetings Update by Eileen Wright. An outline of the Off-Road Vehicle Campaign ideas was presented which will be discussed with the Medford Police regarding their goal to reduce ATV's actively riding on open space and destroying plants and upsetting wildlife. The goal is to work with local media, the police and educators to build awareness of the issue.

- 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, Lower Forge Brewery when open and EMS Station 238 on Jackson Road when open.
500 lbs has been collected and will be finalized with Trex for Medford to have achieved 5 benches in total. The EAAC qualified for 3 benches, and Freedom Barks – 2 benches. We will continue to work on the 6th bench.
There is one bench currently at Still Park. We will be replacing the existing bench with a new bench and adding one bench so that the colors match. There will be two benches at Still Park. The third bench will be placed at Cow Point. The two benches earned by Freedom Barks are placed throughout the Dog Park in Freedom Park.
- Grant Applications/Projects
 - 1) Sustainable Jersey PSEG Grant – submitted 2/10/23. Not Approved. Pola and Beth attended the debriefing session and were encouraged to reapply at next round from AC Electric for the max \$5,000 grant.

- 2) NJ American Water Grant – submitted 3/31/23. Not Approved.
- 3) ANJEC Grant – submitted April 17th. Not Approved
- 4) Atlantic City Electric Grant. Due June 29th (re-submit PSEG grant)

Beth advised that while the grants above were not approved, she is encouraged for the Township because a total of \$2M in grant improvements have been received for the Township from other sources. A \$1.486M NJDOT Transportation Alternative Grant for Main Street has been received to create bike and pedestrian opportunities. Work will start at Church Road through the Village to Chapel Avenue. It will include markings on the road, sidewalk improvements and streetscape improvements such as benches and work on the trees. A \$200,000 Safe Streets for All grant was also received, as was a Community Development Block Grant for \$100,000 for the Union Street/Allen Avenue handicapped barrier removal & sidewalks.

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. See Above

V. *New Business –*

- ❑ Sunrise Rotary wants to revisit tree program with the EAAC at Hartford Crossing.
- ❑ Tree Grant from the Burlington County Bridge Commission – Beth Portocalis applied for larger trees to be planted along 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 investigate this further and see how we can partner on trails.
- ❑ Wildlife Interaction Plan – no update

VI. *Planning & Zoning Considerations*

- ❑ Review of Application Plans submitted to Planning & Zoning Office. No update.

Next meeting -- Tuesday, July 11, 2023 @ 7:00 PM

VII. *Adjournment*

There being no further business to come before the group. Deb Evans moved to adjourn, 2nd by Bob Lee. All in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm

Minutes taken by Deb Evans