

**HARDING TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
7:30 P.M. – MUNICIPAL BUILDING
November 3, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Harding Township, NJ Environmental Commission (EC) was called to order at 7:30 PM by Mr. Symonds, Chairman. The following statement was read: "This regularly scheduled meeting of the Harding Township Environmental Commission is held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Adequate notice was given in announcements sent to the *Observer Tribune* and the *Daily Record*, filed with the Township Clerk and posted on various bulletin boards".

ROLL CALL

On a call of the roll, the following were present:

Members Present:	Hugh Symonds, Chair James Novotny, Vice Chair Brenda Catalanello Richard Clew Alf Newlin William Seifert Lisa Welsh
Excused:	Kate Barry
Absent:	Christina Juliano
TC Liaisons:	Nicolas Platt Christopher Yates
Also Present:	George Byrnes, Commission Secretary

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Clew made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2021, meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Novotny. On a voice vote, all eligible voters were in favor and the minutes were approved.

PROJECTS – MAJOR

Trapping

Mr. Platt gave an overview of the history and reasoning behind the original fox and coyote anti-trapping ordinance that was passed by the TC in 2018 and what the new revised ordinance entailed. Mr. Newlin asked why not just ban all traps other than live cage traps, which was generally supported by the EC.

Invasive Species

Mr. Symonds stated that the residents need to be educated about invasives species and how they affect the local wildlife. Mr. Yates suggested reaching out to Rick Darke about giving another presentation since his first was cancelled. Mr. Yates also suggested that there should be a goal of a speaker/presentation every other month.

Tree Giveaway

Mr. Clew stated that the Commissioners should be asked to think about what trees should be sourced for the next giveaway. It was suggested to focus on multiple layers of flora and not just trees.

GSWA Plant Sale

Mr. Symonds stated that the Association is getting ready for the next event, which is generally the week after Earth Day. They are looking for a volunteer to be the contact between the EC and the Great Swamp Wildlife Association.

Rolling Knolls

There were no new updates with regards to Rolling Knolls.

LIAISON REPORTS

BOA – Mr. Symonds reported that the cell tower application should have a vote at the next meeting.

Planning Board – Mr. Clew reported that there were two applications, one regarding a lot line adjustment to fix lot coverage issues, and the other a proposed garden center on Mt. Kemble Avenue.

HOST – Mr. Novotny stated that HOST is in the process of buying another property on Van Beuren Road. The goals of the group were also a topic of conversation.

Shade Tree – Mr. Novotny stated there was no meeting.

Township Committee – Mr. Yates stated that most of the meeting was spent on a discussion of the Trapping Ordinance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Symonds opened the meeting to the public for questions and comments on items not included on the agenda. There being no further comments, the public session was closed.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

The next regular scheduled meeting of the Environmental Commission will be held on Wednesday, November 3, 2021 at 7:30PM at the Harding Township Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted,

George Byrnes

George Byrnes, Secretary
Harding Township Environmental Commission