

City of Lambertville
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
7:00 P.M., Wednesday, May 25, 2022
Justice Center
MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to order and statement of compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act

2. Roll Call

3. Lindsay Hansche

Andy Rdesinski

Cyndy Jahn

Liz Magill Peer

4. Approval of Minutes

Cyndy made a motion to approve the minutes, Andy seconded it. The minutes were approved (3-0). Lindsay abstained as she did not attend.

5. Old Business

a. LGW

No updates

b. Sustainable Jersey

We are waiting to hear back about whether the grant for the Cherry Street planting with LGW will be funded.

c. Green Business Certification

No updates

d. Build Your Own Rain Barrell

On hold until the fall when our new Watershed Ambassador is assigned.

e. Planning Board

No updates. Cyndy suggested that the EC begin to consider the impact of parking (and lack thereof) within the city as projects are being considered by the Planning Board. It could be beneficial for the EC to draft a suggestion of parking guidelines for proposed commercial and residential

properties. Not only is parking a challenging issue in a city of this size, but emissions from idling cars and extra driving (as they search for parking) becomes an environmental issue as well.

f. Pesticides

Liz has reached out to Lauren from LGW to put together green gardening tips for an upcoming issue of Lambertville Matters.

g. Waste Stream

Cyndy reported that she has spoken with individuals from Westfield and Ridgewood, who both use drop-off models for their composting programs. Ridgewood has started their program with 100 participating families (out of a population of 25K) and gathered feedback from them about the process. It is understood at this point that there should be no expectation of city funding for a composting program in Lambertville and that the program will have to be resident-supported financially, at least to some extent.

h. Trex

No updates

i. Environmental Resource Inventory

No updates – on hold for the time being

j. EV Charging Stations

The grant application was submitted and we are waiting to be notified of funding. The final application was for DCFC chargers at the Union Street lot (for two parking spaces, close the Union Street entrance of the lot) and DCFC chargers at the City Hall parking lot (for an additional two spaces). Liz presented to Council and received their full support.

k. Dog Waste

Research compiled by Cyndy's daughter Cait was submitted to the Mayor and Council for consideration.

l. ANJEC Grant

We are awaiting being notified about the funding awards.

m. Union Street Lot spruce-up

Liz noted that the EC will be applying in July or August to Bowman's Wildflower Preserve to acquire native plants for the downtown business district.

6. New Business

a. Bike Share

Soupcon Salon is going to be starting a bikeshare program in town using refurbished bicycles. Liz spoke to them about potentially partnering with the city for this program, and they expressed that their biggest need would be funding for GPS trackers to put under the seat of each bike so they can be located after use. It is estimated this will cost about \$1,000 and EC members will be looking for grant opportunities that could possibly fund this. Liz is also going to inquire to find out if they will accept bikes donated by the community.

b. Resiliency

On May 9th Liz attended the first workshop of the joint resiliency task force which is a collaborative effort of FEMA, the OEM, and the DEP. Primary areas of interest included the Rutgers flood mapping tool, hazard mapping, and a discussion of indirect disaster costs, including temporary and emergency housing. Creative approaches to funding were also discussed. The next scheduled event for the resiliency task force is a webinar on stormwater utility.

c. Recognition for Liz as Sustainability Hero

Cyndy motioned to request that the City pass a resolution acknowledging EC Chair Liz has been recognized as a Sustainability Hero by Sustainable Jersey for the month of May. Motion was seconded by Andy, and passed (3-0, Liz abstained).

d. Trash cleanup along towpath

Lindsay was contacted by Steph Fox from the DEP in regards to some full trashcans in the woods off the towpath near the old railcar that had been reported to her by a member of the community. The DEP asked for assistance from the EC in moving the trash to the towpath so the DEP could then collect it. Lindsay is going to reach out to the Mayor to determine the best course of action to handle this cleanup request.

7. Public Comments

None

8. Announcements

A huge congratulations to EC commissioner Andy who is getting married in the beginning of June!!!!!!!!!!!!!! We wish you a wonderful wedding and a lifetime of love and happiness!!!!

9. Adjournment

Cyndy made a motion to adjourn, Andy seconded. The motion passed (4-0).