

**TOWNSHIP OF EVESHAM
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
MINUTES**

March 6, 2023

6:30 PM

Municipal Bldg.

Call to Order

Chairperson Vassallo called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Flag Salute

Statement of Conformance with Open Public Meetings Act

This meeting is compliant with the Open Public Meetings Act and other applicable laws of the State of New Jersey. The Commission is advisory, and this meeting shall be conducted in an orderly manner. Any questions or comments will be limited to issues relevant to what the Commission may consider in reaching a decision in its advisory capacity.

Roll Call

Present: Vassallo, Jacob, Higginbotham, Lieberman, McCann, Paone, Rolnick, Staff, Trotman

Also Present: Councilwoman Cooper, Katelin Adballah, Student Cherokee High School, Terri Bracchi
Recording Secretary

New Business

Katelin Adballah, Student at Cherokee High , gave a brief overview of herself and what she would like to do as a member of the Commission.

New Jersey American Water– McCann/ Vassallo

The NJ American Water Grant - \$10,000.

McCann reviewed a map of the Ballinger property (Beagle Club) , explained the cleaning of invasive plants for a grant.

Old Business

Vassallo – reviewed the final report of the Croft Farm.

A motion was made by Higginbotham and seconded by Jacob to send the final report of the Croft Farm dated March 6, 2023 to Council.

Recorded Votes:

Ayes: Vassallo, Jacob, Higginbotham, Lieberman, McCann, Paone, Rolnick, Staff, Trotman

Motion approved

Staff - Tree Giveaway – will be held on April 20.

OSOP Status

Comments are due by March 10 and another due by April 20, preserve as much open space as possible.

Vassallo/McCann - Delaware Riverkeeper Network

Another source of grants, minimum of \$50,000.

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2022/2023 Watershed Ambassador

Chairperson Vassallo reported that after months of trying to coordinate with this year's watershed ambassador (the ambassador reached out to (the EC in the fall of 2022), the ambassador has been unavailable except for one trail hike in the fall of 2022.

Vassallo repeatedly asked for assistance with a stream clean up and assessment starting in the fall of 2022 and following up again with the ambassador in the new year. There were weeks between email responses, and Vassallo had to often follow up on unanswered emails.

This experience is in direct contrast to the Ambassadors the EC successfully worked with in the prior three years. The EC worked cooperatively and successfully with our past ambassadors on mutually beneficial assignments for the township and the ambassadors.

Rich Taylor, FBP Liaison -there are 2 projects going on at the BRP.
Vassallo the EC will be responsible to review the process.

Vassallo – Stream Monitoring Report- Will be on the April meeting.

Rolnick – LNG Terminal In Gibbstown – the report should be sent again to Council.
McCann should update the letter and then resend.

A motion was made by Rolnick and seconded by Jacob to resend the updated letter to Council regarding the LNG Terminal issue.

Recorded Votes

Ayes: Vassallo, Jacob, Higginbotham, Lieberman, McCann, Paone, Staff, Trotman
Motion approved.

ANJEC Grant

Vassallo – Green Infrastructure Training sent to DPW, EC will look into it.

Vassallo -The EC will have a table at the National Night Out in August at 6pm to 9pm.

Correspondence and Minutes & Memorialization of Decisions

Correspondence – Vassallo

- Beagle Club's Flora and Fauna Report
- OSRP Comments
- End-of-Year Presentation to Council
- Email to ANJEC regarding Stormwater Survey

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Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Higginbotham and seconded by Jacob to approve the minutes of the February 23 meeting

Recorded Votes

Ayes: Vassallo, Jacob, Higginbotham, Lieberman, McCann, Paone, Rolnick, Staff, Trotman
Motion approved

Adjournment

Higginbotham adjournment at 8:05 PM

Approved by Board

Terri Bracchi, Recording Sec.
