

**Readington Township
Waterwatch Advisory Meeting Minutes
November 21, 2023**

OPEN MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Chair Orlandi at 7:04 p.m. stating that the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act have been met and that this meeting had been duly advertised.

Members in Attendance

Mario Orlandi – Chair
Steve Foster
Marlene Orlandi
Lauren Huelsebusch
David Owen
Richard Geissler
Jonathan Heller

Absent

Rene Rao

Guests in Attendance:

Christine Albrecht

Minutes

It was moved and seconded, a motion to approve the minutes for October 17, 2023, as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

Committee Member Updates

Mr. Foster - Mr. Foster reported that the Township Committee has decided to not continue providing garbage and recycling services. They have issued a notice to residents with a list of options. The Environmental Committee's perspective is to manage litter and recycling and ensure respectable companies are chosen so the refuse gets to an appropriate location after picking up. The biggest concern is if recycling costs too much, will residents continue to separate recycling from trash. B There are approximately 4700 households in the township.

Opportunity to provide re-education on recycling. cleaning your containers before recycling.

Members discussed pricing and contract options. Also discussed was the bid and contract review process and different options considered before coming to the decision for each household to choose their service provider.

Ms. Orlandi - The last green committee meeting with the school, Garvi Adacari's holland brook teacher, her curriculum dovetails more towards land than water.

Looking for a way to incorporate

Sarah Pouch who is in charge of the science curriculum

Encourage open space with outdoor classrooms. Marlene Will work with Lauren on this project and meet on December 4th to bring open space into the schools.
Tatiana Halinka has received Mario's calendar ideas and will come up with ways to tie each subject into the schools to create opportunities to incorporate topics into STEM curriculum.

Members discussed current school curriculum and programs and possible new ideas or reimplementing programs that have been dropped.

Jay Kelly could talk about the plans
Neil hendrickson can talk about the trees
Most people in town don't know about things
Start with kids because kids take the information home

Mr. Owen - Trails are in great conditions
Cole road east cutting hay and drove his tractor
Pleasant run green way Robert Becker and Jacqueline Hindor replaced one of the bridges

Pickle Park john clots has planted 20 trees
DPW repairs two bridges on the Soms property that were washed away during hurricane Ida

Commissioners. Focused on truck weight limits and trucks using truck GPS

The state is going to widen route 202. Plans are vague
Between Somerville circle and Flemington circle
The township should focus on it because it splits three bridges away from Readington
Will become a 6-lane highway

The ERI presented by Thomas hopper by Princeton hydro to the TC
It dovetails wonderful with the water story
It looks great

Orlando - Becker's work dovetails - Princeton hydro started from scratch but pulled his work in so no work was lost.
Neil asked for commissions input, so the water story is included

Arc GIS and story maps - township would need to have a license to support the platform on the website.

Lack of communication is Readington's biggest issue.

Mr. Heller – No Report. The TC will look into transferring funds from one platform license to another in order to support the new ERI.

Ms. Huelsebusch – Hike with the kids went great and discussed each group of kids and what was done and explored on the hike. Christina Albrecht also reported on the two groups of students she led.

Mr. Geissler – received a mailing from Raritan headwaters mentioning Fairview farms. 140 acres. Encourages members to visit it is a beautiful area to walk.

Calendar

framework

New/Other Business

Mr. Orlandi – Discussion of Monthly RWW calendar and Expansion of Scheduled a variety of activities to engage in and an example from Michigan and the way they communicate with their community. Comments suggestions and communication we could do. Monthly messages to go out via a calendar.

Suggested to link an activity with each monthly topic to get people involved physically while providing education. Could be an announcement on Facebook with educational information

Electronic backpacks

Cater to your constituents and consider them when choosing locations, activities, timing, etc.

Signage is important.

it was discussed the logistics of planning an event for 12 months of the year coordinating and planning will be time consuming

Two options to approve a yearly calendar or go month by month. Start in January 2024.

Past activities and ways of reaching out were discussed amongst members.

Communication email blasts, facebook, communication channels, should be

Keep it simple to start

Facts such as water in all languages

Facts or jokes about water

Comments

Last year was asked to test for salt in the streams after it snows will that be coming up soon?

Base line testing prior to it snowing, possibly first week of December

Ongoing Business

*Waterwatch Advisory Committee Meeting, continued
November 21, 2023*

Not discussed.

Adjournment

It was moved and seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Danielle Monaghan
Advisory Boards Secretary