

**MEETING MINUTES**

**TOWNSHIP OF OCEAN**  
**Environmental Commission**  
**JANUARY 22, 2024 – 5:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. FLAG SALUTE

3. ROLL CALL

Donald Lippincott	<u>  X  </u>
Thomas Leaming	<u>  X  </u>
Richard Lipman	<u> Absent </u>
Lorraine Flohr	<u>  X  </u>
Kenneth Fekete	<u>  X  </u>
John Lane	<u>  X  </u>
Diane B. Ambrosio	<u>  X  </u>
Alt #1 Jack Henderson	<u> Absent </u>
Alt #2 Robert Knowles	<u>  X  </u>

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT** – PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW JERSEY OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT, ADEQUATE NOTICE OF THIS MEETING WAS PROPERLY PROVIDED BY SENDING COPIES OF THE NOTICE OF MEETING TO TWO NEWSPAPERS, THE ASBURY PARK PRESS AND THE PRESS OF ATLANTIC CITY. THE NOTICE WAS POSTED AT THE OFFICE OF THE TOWNSHIP CLERK AND ON THE BULLETIN BOARD OF THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.

**NOMINATION FOR CHAIRPERSON for the year of 2024:**

Don Lippincott, Jr. was nominated as Chairperson for the year of 2024 by Diane Ambrosio, seconded by Robert Knowles.

Donald Lippincott	<u>  X  </u>
Thomas Leaming	<u>  X  </u>
Richard Lipman	<u> Absent </u>
Lorraine Flohr	<u>  X  </u>
Kenneth Fekete	<u> Abstain </u>
John Lane	<u>  X  </u>
Diane B. Ambrosio	<u>  X  </u>
Alt #1 Jack Henderson	<u> Absent </u>
Alt #2 Robert Knowles	<u>  X  </u>

Donald Lippincott, Jr. was officially elected as Chairperson for the year of 2024.

**Meeting was officially turned over to Chairperson Lippincott.**

**NOMINATION FOR VICE CHAIRPERSON for the year of 2024:**

Thomas Leaming was nominated as Vice Chairperson for the year of 2024 by Robert Knowles, seconded by Diane Ambrosio.

Donald Lippincott	___X___
Thomas Leaming	___X___
Richard Lipman	_Absent_
Lorraine Flohr	___X___
Kenneth Fekete	___X___
John Lane	___X___
Diane B. Ambrosio	___X___
Alt #1 Jack Henderson	_Absent_
Alt #2 Robert Knowles	___X___

**REGULAR MEETING**

Approval of the Meeting Minutes: September 12, 2023

Robert Knowles made a motion to approve the meeting minutes, from the September 12, 2023, meeting. The motion was seconded by Lorraine Flohr.

Donald Lippincott	___X___
Thomas Leaming	___X___
Richard Lipman	_Absent_
Lorraine Flohr	___X___
Kenneth Fekete	_Abstain_
John Lane	_Abstain_
Diane B. Ambrosio	_Abstain_
Alt #1 Jack Henderson	_Absent_
Alt #2 Robert Knowles	___X___

**1. Correspondence**

Secretary Bonfonti discussed that the correspondence the Environmental Commission received prior to today's meeting was listed on the agenda in detail and is available to be reviewed at the Clerk's office in Town Hall. Secretary Bonfonti discussed that if any member is interested in viewing any item of correspondence, they are welcome to do so. Secretary Bonfonti discussed that most of the correspondence the Environmental Commission received is legal notifications alerting the Township to permit applications being made within the Town.

**2. Old Business**

Secretary Bonfonti discussed that the Township of Ocean would be renewing the Environmental Commission's ANJEC membership for the 2024 year.

Ken Fekete inquired if anything more has developed regarding the windmills out in the ocean.

Diane Ambrosio discussed that the Township of Ocean was notified by Orstead that the project was no longer moving forward as of now.

Robert Knowles discussed a point of interest for the Environmental Commission is to ensure that the members of the commission attend the annual Town Wide Clean Up as it is the best opportunity for the commission to engage with the public, and one of the main events the Environmental Commission participates in annually.

John Lane inquired about where the collection takes place.

Diane Ambrosio discussed that it is all collected at the Corliss lake Park and Recreation Area, and that virtually most things are collected at the Town Wide Clean Up.

Mayor Lydia Dodd discussed that a major benefit of the Town Wide Clean Up is that it deters residents from dumping in the woods.

Donald Lippincott, Jr. inquired about how many years the Township has run the Town Wide Clean Up at this point.

Diane Ambrosio discussed that this is approximately the 18<sup>th</sup> year the Township will hold the Town Wide Clean Up.

Ken Fekete inquired about the county's Hazard Mitigation plan.

Diane Ambrosio discussed that this plan is entirely run through the county, but anyone in the Township could sign onto the meeting if they would like to.

John Lane discussed the Forked River Mountain coalition as they have a day where they walk through the woods in Forked River and clean up litter.

Diane Ambrosio discussed the commission should find out when that event will take place to determine if the Township could participate in that, as well.

Ken Fekete inquired about whether the Green Team needs to meet independently from the Environmental Commission.

Diane Ambrosio discussed that the Green Team is part of the Environmental Commission, and meeting for one qualifies meeting for both.

Diane Ambrosio discussed that the Township wants to work to recertify for Sustainable Jersey once more.

Donald Lippincott, Jr. discussed that the Environmental Commission also typically discusses any plans that comes before the Planning Board, and can offer recommendations to the Planning Board if they feel there is anything they need to reevaluate.

Lorraine Flohr inquired as to what is being built across from the Pancoast Rd. entrance to Greenbriar?

Diane Ambrosio discussed that Town Homes are being built there, and 15% of it will be considered affordable housing.

Donald Lippincott, Jr. that the Township of Ocean has one of the longest continuous preserved bayfront shorelines in the state of New Jersey at the Lighthouse Center for Natural Resource Education.

Donald Lippincott, Jr. discussed that if any of the Environmental Commission members hear of/read of anything that may be relevant to the Environmental Commission they are encouraged to bring it up at future meetings.

John Lane, and Diane Ambrosio, discussed that it could be beneficial to the Township to reach out to the Army Corp of Engineers to look into the use of barges to clean up the bayfront/marsh here in town.

Donald Lippincott, Jr. discussed that he will reach out to the Lighthouse Center for Natural Resource Education to see if there are any ways that the Environmental Commission may be able to assist the center.

The Environmental Commission also discussed possibly holding more meetings at the Lighthouse Center for Natural Resource Education.

### 3. New Business

No new business.

#### Motion to Open for Public Comment:

No public was present at this meeting.

#### Motion to Adjourn

Robert Knowles motioned to close the meeting, seconded by Diane Ambrosio.

All in Favor: \_\_\_X\_\_\_ Opposed \_\_\_NONE\_\_\_

Meeting Dates 2024 – 5:00 pm

March 4  
April 1  
April 29  
June 3  
September 3  
September 30  
November 4  
December 2

Signed and Submitted:

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Amanda Bonfonti, Secretary  
Environmental Commission

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Date