

ROLL CALL:

Members Present - Robert Amadon, Chairperson
Danielle Bagley
Evelyn Hicks
Barbara Lipiew
Ryan Taylor

Absent - Thomas Mudd, Jr.
Adam Reger
Ben Szablewski
Councilmember Scott Robertson

Associate Members present: Brittany Hernon, Leane Schultz

WELCOME

Chairperson Amadon opened the meeting and noted that he is starting the meeting while waiting for at least one more member to meet a quorum.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Motion by Ms. Hicks, seconded by Ms. Lipiew, to approve the Meeting Minutes of September 30, 2024.

Ayes: All Noes: None Abstain: None Motion Carried

ISSUES OF THE PUBLIC

Dave King, Langner Road, made the following comments and questions:

- ✓ A warehouse/storage facility is being built on Langner Road and expressed concern over the disruption to the area – Chairperson Amadon asked if the owner had a permit to do this. Mr. King understands the owner does have the proper permits
- ✓ The facility is in the wetlands and on the creek
- ✓ Petition with approximately 70 signatures in opposition was submitted to the Town Clerk’s Office and retained by the Supervisor
- ✓ Trees and shrubbery were removed, and a pile of millings is onsite

Steve Griffey, Langner Road, made the following comments:

- ✓ Echoed Mr. King’s concerns and stated the construction is very disruptive
- ✓ No one knows what the ultimate plans for this property are and there has been no notification to the neighbors
- ✓ Concerned about the environmental impact on the waterways

Ms. Bagley requested contact information from Mr. King and Mr. Griffey.

Mr. King reviewed the concerns the residents of Langner Road have with the development near the creek. Ms. Hicks stated the property owner will likely need to appear before the Planning Board before building anything. The Environmental Commission does not have authority to act on the concerns. Ms. Hicks further explained the process followed by the applicant and Planning Board when addressing this type of application.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence received by the commission.

ONGOING COMMISSION PROJECTS

Bikes

Chairperson Amadon stated the town needs to develop a Transportation Plan and is unsure how to proceed with this.

Trees

Chairperson Amadon stated the town is still awaiting execution of the contract for the grant with NYSDEC as well as the status of the updated tree list provided to the Town Board several months ago. Ms. Lipiew questioned if a no-cost extension is needed due to the ongoing delays with the tree inventory grant. Ms. Lipiew will follow up with Councilmember Robertson.

Education

Display at the Burchfield Nature and Arts Center - Ms. Lipiew stated she was out of town for a few weeks and had yet to begin this project. Ms. Hicks did not have an update.

Waterways

Chairperson Amadon stated there are 60 medallions on hand and was awaiting feedback from the Town Attorney about any liability concerns.

Ms. Hicks stated she will investigate the details of the Governor's new initiative.

GOVERNANCE

Chairperson Amadon referred to the proposed 2025 meeting schedule and asked if Thursday evening is acceptable to all. Ms. Lipiew reminded the members of the offer to move the meetings to the Burchfield Nature and Arts Center. Mr. Taylor indicated this is acceptable.

Chairperson Amadon invited interested parties to apply to the commission with Deputy Supervisor Greenan.

NEW BUSINESS

Tree City USA –Ms. Bagley stated the organization has applications and requirements which can be submitted after the tree inventory grant is completed. Another requirement is a more active tree subcommittee. Ms. Lipiew asked if membership would qualify the town for additional grants for trees. Ms. Bagley believes it will.

Ms. Hicks arrived to the meeting at 6:43 P.M. and Chairperson Amadon returned to the meeting minutes approval.

NYSDEC Smoke Creek Habitat Opportunity Assessment Report – Ms. Hicks stated she does not have an update at this time but will investigate the NYSDEC initiative.

Liaison to the ECEMC, Erie County Environmental Management Council – Ms. Hernon and Mr. Taylor expressed interest and Ms. Hernon will advise if a work conflict exists for her.

Motion by Ms. Hicks, seconded by Ms. Bagley, to recommend Brittany Hernon and Ryan Taylor serve as

representatives from the Town of West Seneca to the Erie County Environmental Management Council.

Ayes: All Noes: None Abstain: None Motion Carried

Chairperson Amadon will relay this recommendation to Councilmember Robertson.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ms. Lipiew, seconded by Mr. Taylor, to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 P.M.

Ayes: All Noes: None Abstain: None Motion Carried

Margaret A. Martin
Deputy Town Clerk/Secretary to the Environmental Commission

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