

**MINUTES OF THE
MENDHAM BOROUGH ECOSST
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, October 2, 2023
Garabrant Center, 4 Wilson Street, Mendham, NJ**

CALL TO ORDER & FLAG SALUTE

The Regular meeting of the Mendham Borough ECOSST was called to order at 7:30 p.m. and the open public meeting statement was read into the record.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Arena	Present	Mr. Tracy	Present
Ms. Mundy	Absent	Mr. Foerster	Present
Mr. Metzler	Present	Mr. Morris	Absent
Mr. Wells	Present	Mr. D'Urso	Absent

MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Metzler, seconded by Mr. Foerster and unanimously carried by voice vote to adopt the Minutes of the September 5, 2023 meeting, as presented.

ROLL CALL

In Favor: Mr. Arena, Mr. Metzler, Mr. Wells, and Mr. Foerster.

Opposed:

Abstain: Mr. Tracy

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Arena opened the meeting to the public for questions and comments on items not included on the agenda. There being none, public comment was closed.

NEW BUSINESS/OTHER ITEMS

At the last meeting Mayor Glassner suggested that the group to put together a master list of multiply projects that can be approved by Council in advance. Below is the list that will be sent to the Mayor and Council

- A. Cutting down trees at UMC property
- A. Shade tree and whip plantings at Scott Farm~ **Scout/IB project**
- A. Increase tree planting budget to replace dead Ash trees
- B. Walking Trail at United Methodist Church Property (UMC).~ **Scout/IB project**
- B. Planting of pollinators at Scott Farm~ **Scott/IB project**
- B. Feasibility of completing Borough Loop Trail
- A. Cost for survey of Borough property on Franklin Rd
- A. Restoration of Patriots Path (from Mud hole to Treatment Plant)
- B. Carey Barn at Scott Farm sign.(Like Mountain Valley sign)
- A. Install path from Patriots Path to Kings
- A. Stain bridge at Mountain Valley Pond~ **Scout/IB project**
- A. Raised Beds at MASH for a community garden. ~ **Scout/IB project**

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Work Groups Reports

- a. Open Space / Farmland Preserve
 - i. **Open Space** – Mr. Wells went over the following:
 1. Obtain feedback from Mayor and Council on priorities for land preservation listed in the 2023 Open Space Inventory Update
 2. Initiate preliminary discussions with landowners whose properties have an “A” rating in the Open Space Inventory Update.

b. Environmental

- i. Mr. Metzler explained that the NJDEP approved the permit for the V-Fee project at King’s. Mr. Arena explained that the consultant that ECOSST has been using stated that an appeal can be done.
- ii. Motion by Mr. Tracy, seconded by Mr. Wells to request that the consultant file the appeal with the consent of the Mayor and Council.

ROLL CALL

In Favor: Mr. Arena, Mr. Metzler, Mr. Wells, Mr. Tracy, and Mr. Foerster.

Opposed:

Abstain:

c. Shade Tree

- i. Mr. Foerster stated that the Fall planting will begin in October.

B. Project Group Report

a. Scott Farm

- i. Mr. Arena stated that there are some Eagle Scout projects currently in progress at Scott Farm.
 1. Bird watching stand.
 2. Picnic Benches
 3. Pollinators around the Girl Scout’s Air Bees & Bees project.

b. Recycling/Clean Communities Outreach Program

- i. No Updates.

c. Service Projects (Scout Liaison)

- i. No Updates.

d. Trails

- i. Mr. Wells discussed the following:
 1. Borough Loop Trail – Determine if construction of the proposed loop trail segment along Hilltop Road from Heather Hill Road to Talmage Road is feasible.
 2. Proposed trail linking Patriot’s Path to the Borough Shopping Center – In the development process for V Fee Apartments, incorporate discussion of a trail linking Patriot’s Path with the Village Shopping Center/V Fee Apartments.

3. Trail link from the end of Franklin Road to the Township's Tempe Wick Reserve – Perform a survey at the end of Franklin Road to determine if the stream at that location lies in the Borough or the Township.
 4. Restoration of Patriot's Path between Mountain Avenue and Ironia Road The Borough's application to the County for grant funding for this project was not approved, because the County felt that the Borough did not provide sufficient evidence of the necessary easements or ownership of the corridor to be restored. The Borough will amend its application to address this problem and refile in 2024.
- e. Events Calendar
 - i. Paper and Tech Shredding- April 6, 2024 from 9 AM -1 PM
 - f. Methodist Church Property
 - i. No Updates – trees need to be removed.
 - g. Community Wildlife Habitat
 - i. No Updates

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Metzler, seconded by Mr. Foerster and unanimously carried to adjourn at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Smith
Land Use Coordinator