

**MINUTES OF THE  
MENDHAM BOROUGH ECOSST  
REGULAR MEETING  
Monday, December 4, 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	Present

**MINUTES**

Motion by Mr. Metzler, seconded by Mr. Tracy and unanimously carried by voice vote to adopt the Minutes of the November 2, 2023 meeting, as presented.

**ROLL CALL**

In Favor: Mr. Arena, Mr. Metzler, Mr. Tracy, and Mr. D'Urso.

Opposed:

Abstain: Mr. Wells, and Mr. Foerster

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairman Arena opened the meeting to the public for questions and comments on items not included on the agenda.

- A. Mr. Lupo, 17 Dean Rd. Requested an update on the NJDEP appeal. Mr. Metzler stated that NJDEP sent a notice that we weren't in compliance with the appeal and items that did not meet their requirements. Mr. Metzler explained that the attorney will be sending in what was requested.

There being no further comments, public comment was closed.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

A. Work Groups Reports

- a. Open Space / Farmland Preserve

i. No Update.

- b. Environmental

i) No Update

- c. Shade Tree

i. Mr. Foerster explained that an inventory of the Borough's Street trees to give to the forestry service. Mr. Foerster noted that the Master Plan will be reevaluated one he has received the findings of the canopy assessment due to the loss of the Ash trees.

B. Project Group Report

- a. Scott Farm

i. Mr. Arena noted that there will be 2 more scout projects taking place at the Farm in the near future. Mr. Foerster asked if there were bird houses on the property. Mr. Metzler stated that Mr. Neff suggested Merlin bird houses for the property.

- b. Recycling/Clean Communities Outreach Program

- i. Mr. Arena stated that volunteers are needed for the Styrofoam event on January 6, 2024 from 9-12pm. Ms. Perkins will ask Environmental Club if they can volunteer.
  - ii. Mr. Arena noted that there will be a Paper and Tech shred day on April 6<sup>th</sup> and no volunteers are needed for this event.
  - iii. Mr. Arena is looking into composting for after the Holidays at the DPW.
    - 1. Mr. Wells noted that the DPW composted pumpkins after Halloween.
- c. Service Projects (Scout Liaison)
  - i. Mr. Arena noted raised beds at MASH
  - ii. Mr. Metzler stated that the Commons should be approached to stop mowing the area near the eastern area of the pond. Mr. Wells stated that he will look into if there is a committee at the Commons and see if there is any interest.
- d. Trails
  - i. Mr. Wells stated that the trail between Franklin field and Coventry is paved but in disrepair. Mr. Wells contacted DPW and they will repair. Mr. Wells noted that he will follow up.
- e. Events Calendar
  - i. Styrofoam event on January 6, 2024 from 9-12pm
  - ii. Paper and Tech Shredding- April 6, 2024 from 9 AM -1 PM
- f. Methodist Church Property
  - i. Mr. Tracy explained that he is waiting for the dead trees to be taken down before any projects.
- g. Community Wildlife Habitat
  - i. Ms. Perkins distributed flyers at school and needs more copies.

## DISCUSSION

ECOSST reviewed the Fall Foliage Contest submissions and chose Monica Attias as the winner.

Mr. Arena explained that there was a list of projects sent to the Mayor and Council for Scouts, IB, etc. Mr. Arena asked that the Joint Land Use Board (JLUB) and Council be added to the agenda so that the liaisons from both can give updates.

Mr. D’Urso went over the 2 applications for pillars that were heard at the last JLUB meeting. Mr. Metzler asked that all JLUB applications be sent to him for review.

Mr. Van Den Hende, 11 Coventry Rd., asked that the Styrofoam Event be better advertised. Mr. Van Den Hende noted that the trees on Coventry Rd are overgrown and starting to encroach on the road and sidewalks. Mr. Foerster explained that future plantings will be 12-15 feet off the curb. Ms. Herrick, 25 Franklin Rd., suggested that the retention area between Franklin Rd. and Coventry not be mowed and just mow a path.

## ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Foerster, seconded by Mr. D’Urso and unanimously carried to adjourn at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Lisa Smith*  
 Land Use Coordinator