

LIBERTY TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting
April 20, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. This meeting was advertised on the Township Website as in-person at the Township municipal building and on LTEC's Facebook page.

Roll Call: Present Chairman Larry Supp, Vice-Chairman Doug Hankin, Rich Larsen, Jarod Gajda, John Ward, and Regan Bottomley
Absent: Doug Wright

Public Comment: None

Approval of minutes:

- **March 16, 2023-** A motion was made by John Ward to approve the March 16, 2023, meeting minutes, seconded by Rich Larsen. All in favor, Dough Hankin abstained.

Communications: The LTRC will be hosting a lifeguarding course on June 10th and 11th. Solitude will have begun herbicide treatment by that time, so the site should be ready for use.

The final third of the Grant awarded for the Peaceful Wildflower Garden was never received from ANJEC, as they need the final report to be submitted. Deputy Clerk, Jennifer Breslin will assist Secretary, Carrie Gaja with the final report. There is \$84.90 left in the budget to spend. A motion was made by Larry Supp to approve the purchase of mulch for the garden to assist with weed control up to \$84.90, seconded by Regan Bottomley. All in favor.

Old Business:

- **Spring Cabin Fever/Birding Workshop** – A brochure was prepared with various common backyard birds in our area and will be distributed at the Free Tree Giveaway. The event is set for May 13th, but the location is still pending. A motion was made by John Ward to approve the purchase of 150 printed copies of the backyard bird brochure, seconded by Doug Hankin. All in favor. Sign in sheets with email addresses collected at the Free Tree event will be used to contact people to update them on the event. We will advertise on FB and request for an announcement to be put on the township's electronic billboard.
- **Free Tree Giveaway - April 22, 2023** – Set-up time for the morning of the event will be 9:00AM. Labels for bags will be done at the next meeting on April 20th. This year we received 220 trees, and only 3 species which include Bur Oak, Black Walnut, and Chestnut Oak. The limit is 5 trees per person, and people will be

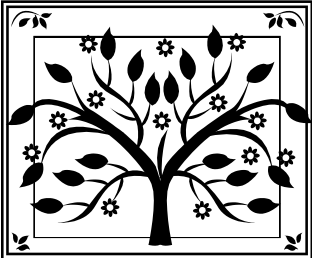
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permitted to pick up trees for their friends as long as they sign in for them and provide an email address.

New Business:

- **MS4 Regulation change, storm water infrastructure, cost, grants / Eric Snyder** – In a meeting with Eric Snyder he advised of the new State regulations that have been put in place. Liberty Township will need to upgrade a watershed inventory report which is a map of all storm water outfalls, drainage areas, and connections. Followed by a watershed assessment and finalized with a watershed improvement plan submitted by 2027. A location listing of all storm drains exists, but no accompanying map. It is not the obligation of the LTEC to handle this, but we stand by to assist if we can, in a non-professional way.
- **Liberty Lake/Buzzards Glory Road vacant township property** – The dam existing on the property was assessed and determined to be leaking in various areas coming out of a pipe and the base and is in poor condition. The town has decided to remove the dam. Other than the dam removal, the town has no plans for the property. Initially the town committee was not entertaining ideas on utilization of the property, but at the most recent township meeting they advised they are open for options. The EC has plans to discuss further about proposing a project to clear walking and biking trails for the public.
- **ANJEC Grant submitted for weed harvesting, contingent on LTEC appropriation/Alternative appropriation if grant is not received** – An application was submitted to ANJEC requesting a \$1,500 grant to fund weed harvesting at Mountain Lake. The Mountain Lake Community Association has their own plans for hiring Jason Hall with Northern Lights to conduct weed harvesting at the outlet. A request/proposal for the township/EC to contribute toward funding this weed harvesting project using LTEC Maintenance funds coupled with the anticipated grant funding. The cost for harvesting is \$3,100 for a one-day job, and if a second day is requested that would come at a cost of \$2,500.

Doug Hankin made a motion to approve weed harvesting for \$2,500 only with the stipulation that Liberty Township be provided a separate contract for harvesting to take place on Day-2 of the project, with the Mountain Lake Community Association agreeing to their own contract for Day-1. It is further stipulated that this is for one year only. Seconded by Rich Larsen, all in favor.



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Commission Member Reports: Comparison of weed harvesting vs. herbicide treatment.

Commissioner and Public Comments: None

Adjournment: A motion was made by Doug Hankin to adjourn the meeting at 9:11PM. Seconded by John Ward. All in favor.

NEXT MEETING May 18, 2023