

Environmental Commission Minutes

July 23rd @ 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call – Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm

Members	Attended July Meeting
Peter Dlugos – Chair	X
Eric Duch – Co-Chair	X
Dana Flynn	X
Christine Aboulhosn	X
James Myers	-
Randy Gutwein	-
Greg Smith	X
Joshua Spahl	X
Dianne Snyder – Secretary	X

Open Public Meeting Statement was read.

Public Participation and Open Forum – Laura Sliker of Old Indian Springs Rd. was present.

Review of June, 2026 Meeting Minutes – Motion made by Christine and seconded by Josh to accept minutes.

Committee Reports

- **MRMC** – Last meeting held June 16; next meeting August 18.
- **Open Space** – Last meeting held July 13; next meeting August 10 – Peter reported that improved signage for our Open Space preserves has been approved by the OS Committee. This will include 12” x 48” signs near trailheads, and 24” x 24” trail maps and interpretive content on the flora, fauna, geology and cultural/historical significance of the land. The BTHS also anticipates being able to fund a revision of our 2013 town trail map. This will include a georeferenced PDF version of the map that can be used with phone apps like MapNero to provide on-trail location even when cell phone service is weak or not available. They also discussed the acre + of dense barberry at Briar Ridge South, and the continuing need to address it.
- **Council** – Last meeting held July 21; next meeting August 11
- **Byram Trail Keepers** – Last meeting held June 20th. Peter reported that the parking area off Ranger Trail for the Glenside Woods trail is not town property, and that should be reflected on our trail maps. He also gave an update on the project of rehabilitating the wayfinding in Glenside Woods.

Member Reports – None

New Business

- **NJUCF Credits** – Discussion was held regarding total credits to date. Peter emailed NJUCF to request that they report his CEUs earned. Dana Flynn has also earned CEUs that will help us meet our annual requirement.
- Peter addressed the need to restock and expand EC fieldwork equipment (e.g., gloves, invasive plant tools, 10-mil barrier for sheet mulching). It’s also been four years since EC shirts have been distributed, and there are a number of new commission members. Greg indicated that hats would be a good way to raise awareness the EC’s work. A motion was made by Eric to spend up to \$900.00 to purchase EC field equipment and EC apparel (shirts and hats). This was seconded by Dana and the EC approved this motion unanimously.
- The upcoming "Landscaping with Locals” Native Plant event will be on September 12th, 10am to 12pm in the

firehouse.

- The upcoming (and co-sponsored with BTHS) Forest Loom and Weaving demo with Sally Orgren will be on Oct. 10th and Oct. 11th.

Planning Board Applications

[Block 226 Lot 3, 198 Route 206, Coviello Landscapes By Lou](#)

The EC recommends that the proposed paved path, 20' long x 10' wide, be designed and constructed so that there is no additional storm runoff into the lot.

Highlands Interactive Map: <https://www.nj.gov/njhighlands/gis/REX/#-74.69086,40.90764,5.17>

Old Business

• Preparing for Prescribed Burn in Tamarack Park No updates	• “Dirty Dirt” In Forest Lakes No updates
• Mansfield Trail Superfund Site No updates	• West Brookwood River Cleanup No updates

Training – NJUCF CEUs count 5 (Dana 3.5; Peter 6;) Peter noted that we are awaiting credits confirmation from NJUCF.

Membership – Alternate II position vacant.

Budget – \$925.00 remaining

Next Meeting scheduled August 27th, 2026 @ 7 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn was made by Eric and seconded by Christine. Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.