

**LIVINGSTON ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**



**Livingston Environmental
Commission**
est. 1973

February 2, 2017

1. **Call to Order** – Walter LeVine called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM.
2. **Statement of Compliance** - Art read the Statement of Compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.
3. **Roll Call** – Present: Walter LeVine, Pearl Hwang (recording secretary), Sam Ratner, Norman Gudema, Bob Hunter, Adam Lippman, Alan Glazer.
Absent: Lauren Tabak-Fass, Scott Goldman, Al Anthony
Members of public attending: Carol Nathan, Richard Nathan, Amy Greenberg, Tamara Liechtenstein, Harris Feldman, Stephen Greenberg.
4. **Swearing-in of New Member** - Alan Glazer (with 2-year term) was sworn in.
5. LEC recording secretary and TRAC attendance rosters will be entered and finalized by Walter.
6. **Approval of Meeting Minutes** - October 2016 and January 2017 meeting minutes have not been reviewed, therefore they are tabled.
7. **Secretary's Report** - Norman reported there is one concrete washout advertisement postcard received.
8. **Treasurer's Report** – Walter reports that the 2017 budget will be reviewed in March by the town council and finalized in April. A temporary budget of 25% of last year's \$3,000 budget is granted.
9. **Committee Liaison and Task Croup Activities Reports:**
 - a. Green Team (Walter): No update.
 - b. Open Space (Sam): A meeting was held on 1/18/2017 by the new chairman Art Altman. Representative from Land Conservancy will attend the next meeting. Monthly meeting will be held from now on.
 - c. R & R Committee (Walter): A town-wide cleanup event is scheduled for April, looking for volunteers. Town will be developing sites for cleanup.
 - d. LEC website (Pearl): no update.
 - e. Orchard Hill Park: no update.
10. **LEC Activities and Updates:**
 - a. Bamboo Ban Ordinance - As requested by the town council, LEC has reviewed the proposed Bamboo Ban ordinance, and determined that the property owners are responsible to curtail and remove the existing /pre-existing bamboo on their properties, regardless of the original source of the bamboo.
 - b. Tree Ordinance – the revised tree ordinance has been reviewed and approved by the Zoning officer who feels that it has address all of the concerns with implementation and clarification. The revised ordinance will be adopted by the town council.

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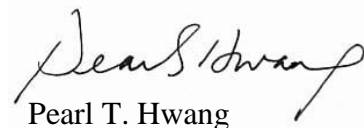
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- c. Annual Report for 2016 has been submitted by Gary Schwartz (LEC past Chair) to the Town Council on 1/17/2017.
11. **Town Arborist** – LEC (Bob Hunter) suggests that our town retains a part time arborist (say one day a week) to assist in identifying historical trees, disease or dead trees, inform the local tree service companies and the realtors about the tree ordinance, and conduct outreach. Nearby towns, such as West Orange, Harding, Short Hill, and Millburn all have their own foresters. There is such person who has previously compiled a tree inventory list in Livingston and is familiar with our town. Bob will research more on the feasibility.
12. **Site Plan/EIS Waiver Reviews:**
- a. Joseph Kushner Academy - This project is to continue its planning board hearing in February. No additional updated plans or report been submitted to address previous LEC comments.
13. **7-Eleven – NJ Energy Site Plan Application:**
- Local residents, known as “Livingston United” who have concerns with the proposed 7-Eleven located at the former Exxon gas station site at 226 Northfield Road, have come to attend the LEC meeting. The group has a copy of the 2015 Site Investigation Report prepared for the Exxon site as submitted to NJDEP, which identified soil and groundwater contamination generated from the former gas station use. In addition, Exxon has deed restricted the site for future commercial use only, even though the site is located in a residential zone. Such environmental report was not previously provided to the LEC or the Zoning Board. The residents are concerned with the level of environmental remediation committed by the new applicant and also the negative environmental impact on air quality, noise, light pollution, crime, traffic, and drainage that would generated from the proposed 7-Eleven use. LEC will look into these concerns and provide a written comment to the Zoning Board ahead of its next hearing on this project.
14. **Upcoming Events and Announcements:**
- a. The 2/8/2017 TRAC meeting has been canceled.
- b. LEC Special Meeting on 2/23/2017 at 7 PM.
- c. Next LEC Meeting is scheduled on 3/2/2017 at 7:30 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,


Pearl T. Hwang