

**MINUTES OF THE
MENDHAM BOROUGH ECOSST
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, April 5, 2021
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 electronically via Zoom.

APPOINTMENTS/OATHS OF OFFICE

Mr. Arena administered Oaths of Office to the following member(s):

- a. Dave Sprandel – Regular Member expiring 12/31/21.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Arena	Present	Mr. Sprandel	Present
Ms. Barber	Present	Mr. Foerster	Absent
Ms. Mundy	Present	Mr. Pace	Absent
Ms. Golier	Absent	Mr. Wells	Present
Mr. Metzler	Present	Mr. Castiglione	Absent

Also Present: John Patton, High School Liaison

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MINUTES:

Chairman Arena asked for comments on the minutes of the reorganization/regular meeting of March 1, 2021 . There being no corrections, Ms. Barber made a motion to approve the minutes as written and Ms. Mundy seconded.

ROLL CALL

In Favor: Mr. Arena, Ms. Barber, Ms. Mundy, Mr. Metzler, and Mr. Wells.

Opposed:

Abstain: Mr. Sprandel

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Work Groups Reports
 1. Open Space / Farmland Preserve
 - a. Mr. Sprandel had not new updates.
 - b. Mr. Arena mentioned that the wording for sign and event at the Rowe Sheep Farm and the United Methodist Church can be combined.
 2. Environmental
 - a. No Update
 3. Shade Tree
 - a. There will be free tree seedlings available at DPW April 23, 24, 26-28
 4. Connector Trail from Patriots Path to Shopping Center
 - a. Mr. Well researched with the County grant program and found that they give grants for 80% for designing trails and the applications will be coming out in early May.

Mr. Wells spoke with Mr. Cooper, Superintendent of Public Works, regarding why the path at the Scott Farm was not followed through with previously. Mr. Cooper stated that there was funding that was turned back to the County and that crushed stone could not be used on the path due to the wetlands, but woodchips can be used. Ms. Smith will check with the Borough Engineer and let Mr. Wells know the outcome.

2. ECOSST Project Group Report

a) United Methodist Church

- (i) Mr. Arena spoke with the Mayor and she stated that the acquisition of the property is on track and they are waiting on the terms of purchase. If the purchase is finalized the property will need a cleanup.

3. Scott Farm

- a) Mr. Arena stated that a proposal is being put together to get funds to build the plan for the Barn Stabilization and Ms. Bushman will pass it along once she receives it.
- b) Mr. Arena has been in contact with the Eagle Scout regarding the progression of the path and the Eagle Scout will be working on the drainage and signage. Mr. Arena stated that himself and Mr. Metzler went out to the Scott Farm and found that the Eagle Scout placed the stacks that the DPW put at the farm to make the path around the property and Mr. Cooper stated that the DPW will be mowing it.
- c) Ms. Barber stated that she is doing research on reclaiming a field for birds and not mowing from May 15th until August 15th. Mr. Arena said that the only thing that will be mowed is the path.

4. Events Calendar

- a) Raritan Headwaters Association's 31st annual Stream Cleanup on Saturday, April 17, from 9 a.m. to 12:00pm at the Mountain Valley Park in Mendham. Ms. Mundy and Mr. Sprandel volunteered to be site leaders for the event.
- b) Free Tree Seedling Giveaway- April 23, 24 and 26-30 9am -2pm at DPW

NEW BUSINESS/OTHER ITEMS:

- a. Changing meetings to be conducted via Microsoft Teams instead of ZOOM
- b. Mr. Arena asked Mr. Reilly and Mr. Andrew if there are any project suggestions and Mr. Reilly said a bicycle swap/ trade would be a good project. Mr. Arena volunteered to head the project. Ms. Barber has seen a donation event in Morristown like this and it was a great event.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

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

Mr. Usiskin asked about the tree planting that the Borough used to do and Mr. Arena explained that the Shade Tree portion of ECOSST has a Shade Tree Master Plan and with that they pick a section and identify places to plant trees.

Mr. Usiskin spoke of trash near Jockey Hollow and suggested more trash containers be placed around town.

Mr. Usiskin asked about the connector trail behind Kings and stated that since there is proposed apartments on the west side of the complex, wouldn't it make more sense to have a path from the west side to Patriot's Path? Mr. Arena said that it was a great point and will relay the comment to the Council. Mr. Sprandel stated that there will be plans submitted to the Joint Land Use Board and maybe Mr. Usiskin should attend at that point and give his suggestions.

There being no further comments, Chairman Arena closed public comment.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Mr. Sprandel, seconded by Ms. Barber and unanimously carried to adjourn at 8:40 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board will be held on Monday, May 3, 2021 at 7:30PM virtually and at the Garabrant Center, 4 Wilson Street, Mendham, NJ.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Smith

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Land Use Coordinator