

**Minutes of the Meeting of the  
Princeton Flood and Stormwater Commission**

**May 04, 2023**

The meeting of the Princeton Flood and Stormwater Commission was convened at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, May 04, 2023 via Zoom. S. Lieberman opened the meeting in accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, Section 5, Chapter 231, P.L. 275. In conformance with the requirements of the law, notice was provided of the date, time, and location of this regular meeting and filed with the Clerk of Princeton.

**MEETING START TIME: 10:05 am**

**I. Roll Call**

Members: David Cohen (Princeton Council Liaison), Stuart Lieberman (Chair), Scott Sillars, Barbara Vadnais, Daniel Van Abs, Chiara Smorada (Princeton Environmental Commission)

Absent: Louise Wilson

Princeton Engineering: James Purcell (Assistant Engineer), Andrew Filippi (Sewer Engineer), Jenny Ludmer (Sustainable Jersey), Elizabeth Treadway (Stormwater Utility)

Absent: Michael Pisauro (Watershed Institute), Susan Bristol (Watershed Institute)

Public: N/A

**II. Approval of Agenda**

Moved: D. Cohen

Seconded: B. Vadnais

Motion passed unanimously.

**III. Approval of March 31, 2023 Minutes**

Moved: D. Van Abs

Seconded: B. Vadnais

Motion passed unanimously.

**IV. Public Comment**

Public: N/A

**V. Discussions and Decisions**

a. House Keeping – Secretary position

The commission discussed meeting minutes alternatives. D. Cohen suggested closed captioning that can be exported. Until an alternative solution is devised, C. Smorada will be the meeting minutes note taker.

b. Municipal Update (Purcell/Cohen)

- J. Purcell suggested the municipal update should include floodplain management and stormwater flows mapping for future agendas. J. Purcell has prepared an application to FEMA to send in floodplain mapping of Harry's Brook. The map will go to FEMA for review and to the public for comments.
- The stormwater management ordinance is back in the hands of NJDEP for final review and will go to Council (June).
- A. Filippi indicated the stormwater flow mapping staff increased (250 drawings have been uploaded and georeferenced). Documents dating back to 2013 are being scanned and uploaded. Maps will include assets drawings and provide attribute info. Two separate organizations are involved: NJ Geospatial Forum and NJDEP.
  - ACTION ITEM: A. Filippi will put together a presentation/document to share updates about the municipal infrastructure mapping with FSWC in a few months.

c. Floodplain Management Ordinance (Purcell)

Updates included in Municipal Update

d. Stormwater Flows Mapping (Filippi/Purcell)

Updates included in Municipal Update.

e. Stormwater Utility (Jim Purcell)

- The first focus group meeting (24 members) discussed the impervious area map and analysis of who is currently paying for stormwater.
- The second focus group meeting will be on June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- E. Treadway and team presented approach and phases – which includes assessing a feasible pathway for a stormwater utility.
- A meter may be used for non-single-family entities with impervious area as a key factor. Options will be summarized and compared.

f. Master Plan/Utility Element and Climate Hazard Risk Assessment component (Justin)

No one from planning board was present. J Purcell and D. Cohen report no update.

g. Storm Water Mitigation Plan (Sub-Committee)

A. Filippi reported the subcommittee has submitted the Mitigation Plan to attorneys.

h. Tree Removal Replacement Ordinance discussion

The ordinance was reviewed by all. S. Lieberman inquired about the tree replacement timeline and replacement location requirements. J. Purcell suggested updating the municipality's ordinance to match the statewide proposal/model. Comments will be submitted through the engineering department (J. Purcell).

i. Report regarding Sustainable Jersey Gold status (Sustainable Princeton)

Commission to vote on proposal from Sustainable Princeton Subcommittee

- J. Ludmer reported 550 communicative points from last year. This year 570 will be submitted but the goal is 650 points. The deadline is July.
- The commission went over the Navigational Path Template. The report will go to Council next.
- J. Purcell indicated there is already a standardized raingarden design provided to homeowners.
  - ACTION ITEM: J. Purcell will add a drawing to supplement the existing spreadsheet and will provide a document to J. Ludmer. A 1 sheet flier for the public will also be made. This document will include a list of resources and native plants (Watershed and Rutgers resources). Names of landscapers who can provide quotes will be included.
  - ACTION ITEM: J. Ludmer will check if a plan recommendation is required or if the spreadsheet is sufficient.

**VI. Reports from liaisons**

a. Princeton Environmental Commission (PEC)

- C. Smorada invited FSWC to PEC's next meeting to hear from Kevin Burkman (GIS analyst for Sourland Conservancy). K. Burkman will present their recently created map of the Sourland Mountain Watersheds – this includes drainage divides (for central NJ geophysical feature), hydrologic features, and effects of humans on watersheds.
  - ACTION ITEM: C. Smorada will send a meeting reminder and zoom link.
- C. Smorada reported the stream cleanup was successful.
- PEC completed a plan site review of Princeton's Eric & Wendy Schmid Hall and received resources on permeable pavement from other FSWC members.

b. Sustainable Princeton (Ludmer)

J. Ludmer reported many trash cans were converted and 48 rain barrels were created.

c. Watershed Institute discussion of infill rules

No updates – members not present

**VII. Adjournment**

Moved: D. Cohen

Seconded: S. Lieberman

Motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: Friday June 2 2023 at 10 a.m.