

MANCHESTER TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Tuesday, September 23, 2025
Manchester Township Municipal Building
1 Colonial Drive, Manchester Township, NJ

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Tedeschi called the Regular Meeting of the Manchester Township Environmental Commission to order with the following statement: "Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with Open Public Meetings Act. Public Law 1975, Chapter 231. Said notice was advertised in the Asbury Park Press and the Star Ledger."

Time: 6:00 PM

This was followed with the Salute to the Flag.

ROLL CALL:

Jim Sloan	Absent
Sandra Drake	Present
Kathy Stricchiola	Present
Jim Gravatt	Present
Anthony Nasta	Present
Dominick Tedeschi	Present

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to approve July 22, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes

Mr. Nasta made a motion to approve the July 22, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes, seconded by Ms. Stricchiola.

Roll call vote:

Mr. Sloan-Absent
Ms. Drake- Abstain
Mr. Gravatt -Yes
Ms. Stricchiola- Yes
Mr. Nasta -Yes
Mr. Tedeschi-Yes
Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion of dates for the Fall Clean-up

The Commissioners discussed potential dates. They decided on November 15, 2025 from 10-12:00 p.m. beginning at the Manchester Little League Field to clean the area surrounding the Lake. They wanted to make sure they raised awareness for the participants to wear bright colors and use bug spray.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion of Planning Board Application PB-2025-06-Hertiage Solar Farm LLC-B75.01, L:1-Preliminary and Final Site Plan Application-Environmental Impact Statement

Ms. Stricchiola read her report that she prepared into the record. The report gave a brief background and history of the property and environmental issues. She stated that they were mining for ilmenite from 1973-1982 and through that mining, radioactive elements were extracted, including Thorium and Uranium. She explained that currently, the site contains 45 acres with low level tailings that threaten the Barnegat Bay Watershed.

The Commissioners want to know what the long term affect of the solar panels are and whether they are recyclable. The also questioned if there was a decommission plan because it only has a 30 year life span.

William Foor came before the Commission and stated that he received remediation reports when he was on the Commission. He said that the Commission should ask for reports. From the reports he read, he stated that the parts per million have gone down and have been substantially remediated, just not to the state approved levels. He also thinks that the Commissioners should be doing site visits to see what they are doing on the property to remediate.

Discussion of camping excursion at Harry Wright Lake

The Commissioner discussed the desire to pursue an family camping night out event for the residents. They would want to include fire trucks, EMS, fishing, s'mores, crafts(birdhouses), etc. Parents would need to attend with any children present. Ms. Drake said that she would bring it up to the Mayor and Council to get it organized for the Spring.

MEMBER REPORT:

Ms. Drake said that on Monday she went to the MCC with James Vaccaro. They received updates on Ocean County Recycling and information.

There were no more member reports.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

.ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, on motion by Mr. Gravatt and seconded by Mr. Tedeschi, the meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Kisty
Commission Secretary