Township of Long Hill Environmental Commission Regular Meeting Minutes March 21, 2022 – 7:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The Environmental Commission (EC) of the Township of Long Hill, in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey convened in a Regular Meeting at the Long Hill Town Hall, 915 Valley Road, Gillette, New Jersey on Monday, March 21, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30p.m.

Pursuant to the requirement of Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975, adequate notice of the meeting including the time, date and location was posted on the Municipal bulletin-board, the Echoes-Sentinel and Courier News were notified

2. MEETING CUT-OFF

Announcement is made that as a matter of procedure, it is the intention of the Environmental Commission (EC) not to continue any matter past 9:30 p.m. at any regular or special meeting of the commission unless the members then present pass a motion to extend the meeting to a later specified cut-off time.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Susan Garretson Friedman, Chairperson, Thomas Flatley, Vice Chairperson, Dorothy Smullen, Member, Philip Ponturo, Member, Joyce Koenig, Alternate #1, **Absent:** Matthew Dionisio, Member, Brendan Rae, Township Committee Liaison

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

•October 18, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes were reviewed for approval, a motion was made by Dorothy to accept these minutes and the motion was second by Susan. All were in favor to approve these minutes

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS

The meeting was opened to the public for questions or comments; Bill Glancy a resident of Gillette was in attendance as an observer.

6. SECRETARY'S REPORT

Compiled Meeting minutes

7. CORRESPONDENCE/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Application for development of 17 & 23 Gates Ave-Request: demolish structures on property and sub-divide into 3 buildable lots. Reviewed and discussed. Susan will send a letter with EC comments. **Closed.**
- Application for Development of lots 1-57 Old Forge Road, Millington-Request is to build a new dwelling on property. Reviewed and discussed. Susan will send a letter with EC comments. **Closed**
- Discussion Drew Forest, a 53-acre preserve that is under threat of development. We are being asked by <u>Friends of the Drew Forest</u> to support Madison in working towards a conservation sale. Preserving the land as open space (it has 22 acres of trails) is a win for the public—and a win for Drew, which will receive needed funds. Our efforts have received broad support in the community (our petition has 11,161 signatures!)

Next up: Demonstrating that the Forest, and Drew University, are regionally important, both from an environmental and economic perspective (see attached one-pager). Toward that end, we're asking neighboring ECs if they can pass a resolution in support of a conservation sale. And have their Town Councils follow suit.

Chatham Township, Chatham Borough and Morris Township are all on board, at both the EC and council level. Held for next Meeting. **Open**

8. NEXT MEETING

The next Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission will be held on Monday, April 18, 2022.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Joyce made a motion to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Dorothy. Upon proper parliamentary procedures, the regular meeting of the Long Hill Township Environmental Commission did duly adjourn at 9:15 P.M. by unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Shear, Secretary, Environmental Commission