

Lopatcong Environmental Commission
Meeting Minutes
3-8-16

(As prepared by Chair, Juniper Leifer, in absence of Secretary)

Call to order 7:37pm

Roll Call

Present:

Twyla Bartlett

Juniper Leifer

Elora Nowak

Judy Liptak

Absent:

Gerald Harkin

Jon Fox

Guest Presentation: Richard Biemiller of Trout Unlimited discussed the Trout in the Classroom Program that the EC is interested in sponsoring in Lopatcong Middle School in the 2016/17 school year.

Highlights of discussion:

Overall cost of full program is around \$1300. Upgrades and additional equipment are available however, this total would provide a complete program, including all materials needed to provide the core program.

Maintenance costs for program run around \$100 per year.

The TIC program has broad application within several areas of academic study beyond science including math, language arts, art and more. Curriculum can be designed for multiple subjects around the engaging school-wide project. Connections can also be made with common core requirements.

Trout Unlimited currently has 45 schools actively working with the TIC program.

The program would begin in September; volunteers from Trout Unlimited would transfer all materials and handle set-up of the system.

Discussion among commissioners considered where the program might be best suited. Intentions to contact 7th grade science teachers along with school administrations were laid out to further explore the possibility of moving forward.

A teacher must be selected to oversee the program.

Committee Reports:

Discussions were had to finalize plans for upcoming rain barrel workshop. The watershed ambassador will provide official invoices for materials that can be processed by the township. Necessary details will be provided to clerk for insurance company approval. The DPW has offered to help with transportation of the barrels.

Trail Day Hike still scheduled for 6/4/16

Additional discussion focused on the possibility of submitting an application to ANJEC for a grant to apply to TIC program. A motion was made by Juniper Leifer and seconded by Twyla Bartlett to enable to her move forward with that application if possible before the deadline.

The meeting was adjourned before 9pm but the exact time was not recorded.