COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP
Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes
March 25, 2026 – 5:00 pm
Town Hall Annex, 3 Veterans Way, Colts Neck Township

1. Meeting Called to Order at 5:07 PM by Mr. Hennessy

2. Mr. Hennessy asked members to join in the salute to the flag

3. Sunshine Law Notice: THE NOTICE REQUIREMENTS OF THE NEW JERSEY PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW HAVE BEEN SATISFIED BY NOTICING THE ASBURY PARK PRESS AND THE TWO RIVER TIMES ON JANUARY 26, 2026 STATING THAT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION WOULD BE HELD ON MARCH 25, 2026 AT 5: 00 P.M., COLTS NECK TOWN HALL ANNEX, 3 VETERANS WAY, COLTS NECK. A COPY IS ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE TOWNSHIP CLERK."

4. Roll Call:

Present: Thomas Hennessy, Thomas Pacheco, Connie DeMaio, Evan Stivala, Michael Taylor, Teresa Danile

Excused: Allan Ryan, Dina Ryan

5. New Business

-- Guest speaker R.J. Curcio (Naturalist from Monmouth County Park System) – Made presentation focused on preserving and enhancing lands for wildlife and the public. Discussion included threats to natural resource and remediation efforts

6. Minutes

December 16, 2025 meeting - Motion to approve _____ Second _____ - All in favor _____
January 28, 2026 meeting – Motion to approve _____ Second _____ - All in favor ____
Approval of minutes deferred to April meeting as quorum of those present at the respective meetings were not present

7. Old Business

- Green Team/Sustainable New Jersey - ongoing – Sustainable New Jersey is pausing the annual certification cycle to focus on rebuilding the website. New website to launch Fall 2026. Certification process returns 2027.

-2026 meeting dates scheduled (balance of dates to be established at our meeting of March 25, 2026), as follows:
April 22; May 27; June 24; July 22; August 26; September 23; October 28; November 25; December 23

– November and December meeting dates may change due to holidays

8. Discussion Items:

a. 2026 Goals and Objectives of the Environmental Commission and Green Team – Mr. Hennessy is looking for ideas from EC&GT

b. Michael Taylor brought up idea of partnering with DPW to clean up certain spots. Committee to explore having guest from DPW to a meeting.

c. As to spots where invasive species are heaviest, Mr. Hennessy suggested eradication of invasive species from Township properties; Should begin with its park and preserves, then transition to its greenways. Committee to explore having guest from DPW to a meeting.

d. Liaison, John Tobia has suggested looking into commemorative tree planting options for America's 250th

e. Mr. Hennessy will coordinate with Recreation Committee to join with the Environmental Commission – cleanup of Town Hall park and with the Sports Foundation's cleanup of their fields performed by members and players.

9. Planning Board Business-

(a) Notaro/9 Heyers Mill Road/Block 30, Lot 18.02
- Further review -Environmental impact/Quality of life issues
- Mr. Hennessy asked Tom Pacheco to look at plantings on Notaro property to determine if the proposed rear border plantings should be used for future application or is there a sturdier substitute.

(b) Colts Neck Car Club, Lot 7 Block 31,
- 430 State Route 34 (formerly Beckers Hardware)
- Mr. Hennessy is concerned that a car club will set up a car washing station without runoff retention. Also that if the car club were to hold car shows at this location, the spectator parking would not be adequate.

10. New members of the Environmental Commission were asked, by Mr. Hennessy, to research the potential benefits of joining ANJEC.

11. **Comments from the Public**
Motion to Open Public Comment: Michael Taylor; Second: Evan Stivala – All in Favor: Yes; Motion to Close Public Comment: Michael Taylor; Second: Connie DeMaio – All in Favor: Yes

Rosie & Jay Cooley 72 Heulitt Rd
Expressed desire to volunteer for EC/GT

Kathleen Foley, 297 Lakeside Avenue, Colts Neck

Mr. Hennessy said that he will explore possibility of re-establishing associate members.

11. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Evan Stivala; Second: Connie DeMaio; - All in Favor: Yes; Meeting Adjourned at 6:37 PM

The next Environmental Commission Meeting will be May 27, 2026
5:00 pm at the Colts Neck Town Hall Annex, 3 Veterans Way, Colts Neck Township

Respectfully submitted,
Dina Ryan, Secretary