



# The Town of Fenwick Island

800 Coastal Highway, Fenwick Island, DE 19944-4409

302-539-3011 ~ 302-539-1305 fax

[www.fenwickisland.delaware.gov](http://www.fenwickisland.delaware.gov)

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## ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING

November 12, 2025, 9:00 a.m.

Town Hall

MINUTES

**Members Present:** Colleen Wilson, Vicki Carmean, Liz Lear, Pam Pridgeon, Susan Brennan, Stu Rubenstein (Zoom), Lynn Zimmers.

**Other Participants:** None.

**Staff Participants:** Kathy Grab.

Call to Order/ Flag Salute

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

1. Approval of Minutes of October 16, 2025.

**Motion: To approve the Minutes of October 16, 2025.**

**Motion by: Vicki Carmean**

**Seconded by: Liz Lear**

**Motion Passed Unanimously.**

2. Updates/Next Steps for Town Parks.

- a. Pollinator Park.

- Colleen Wilson advised work was done through the end of October readying it for winter.
- The next step is to discuss whether different types of plants should be added or if current ones should be relocated.
- Colleen Wilson suggested making a wind break in the back of the garden with natural grass.

- b. Sidewalk Plantings.

- Colleen Wilson and Susan Brennan weeded the sidewalk area near the Country Store and Our Harvest.
- Vicki Carmean advised that if redoing this in the spring, it will make it easy to maintain.

- Colleen Wilson advised that the committee needs to figure out what to add there and suggests native grasses or something that does not require a lot of maintenance. Susan Brennan suggested Muhly Grass or Guara and Lynn Zimmers suggested hot lips.
  - It was noted on Bunting there are some Mexican petunias.
  - Colleen Wilson would like a timeline to be set up for when the committee would like to do everything at the meeting in January and also choose what plants to replace (both at the Pollinator Park and sidewalk areas).
  - Pam Pridgeon asked to add Moon Vines to the list of plants to add.
- c. Faucett Okie Family Nature Preserve.
- Vicki Carmean looked into arched arbors for the park and found one on Amazon for around \$200. She questioned what they would want to use to grow around it, a trumpet vine, honeysuckle, or Virginia Creeper.
  - Colleen Wilson advised that the final session for the Grant is on November 12<sup>th</sup>.
  - Center for Inland Bays came down to tour the preserve. They found all the invasive species that they wanted to remove, and Paul Wilson has been removing them.
  - At tonight's meeting, they will submit their plan for the pocket forest. There is an area in the back portion of the preserve that has an open area where they would like to plant the mini forest. Susan Brennan and Colleen Wilson will be working on choosing plants they want to have for the area. Paul Wilson has cleared areas around the entrances, and they would like to use some of these plants there as well.
  - Lynn Zimmers commented that the area tends to attract people and asked if Paul Wilson could make a bench for people to sit and enjoy the mini pocket forest.
  - Colleen Wilson mentioned they are still working on the natural fencing that will not only support wildlife, but there is a safety issue because of the pool behind the houses.
  - Colleen Wilson is also concerned about the amount of trash that she has been picking up.
  - Colleen Wilson would like the fence to be started soon. Lynn Zimmers feels that it is not welcoming if the fence is constructed. Colleen Wilson advised that there are two entrances that people will be able to use.
  - Susan Brennan explained that the idea of the natural fence is to recycle limbs, brush and such that have been removed.
  - Colleen Wilson would like to use the Earth Day Event as a way to enlist volunteers to help plant. The committee was in agreement. 20-25 volunteers maximum.
  - Lynn Zimmers requested that a dog waste station be added to the area.
  - Lynn Zimmers would like to be on a list for weeding.

- Liz Lear asked about whether the parking situation has been addressed and was advised not yet. Susan Brennan added that a lot of the invasive plants have been removed, but they could trim off almost 2 ft of the wax myrtles, and it would provide more space.
3. Old Business.
    - a. Offshore Wind Update.
      - Colleen Wilson advised the only new information she has heard is that Nantucket has undertaken a lawsuit with South Wind. A judge has agreed to re-look at the permits.
      - Pam Pridgeon noted that Shell is pulling out of Europe.
      - Colleen Wilson has not heard any more updates on the Ocean City lawsuit.
  4. New Business.
    - a. Earth Day Planning.
      - Colleen Wilson advised that in January they will need to get to work about what they would like to do for the event.
    - b. Beach Day Planting.
      - Colleen Wilson advised that when the walkways were updated, they removed grass. She will contact DNREC about adding back the grass that was removed.
    - c. Northern Lights.
      - Susan Brennan shared some photos of the Northern Lights she took the previous nights and the early morning.
  5. Public Participation.
    - a. None.
  6. Date of the next meeting.
    - a. January 14, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.
  7. Adjournment.

**Motion: To adjourn.**

**Motion by: Susan Brennan**

**Seconded by: Liz Lear**

**Motion Passed Unanimously.**