

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2018**

The meeting of the Environmental Commission, held at the Municipal Building, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey, was called to order at 7:36 p.m. by Richard Wolf, Chair. The Opening Statement was made. Roll call was taken.

Present: Janet Ariemma
Michael Devaney
Karin LaGreca
Carol Phiefer
Richard Seibert
Richard Wolf

Tom McKeon, Malcolm Road Resident (arrived at 8 p.m.)
Jennifer Storms, Secretary

Absent: Ward Donigian, Planning Board Liaison

The minutes of the meeting held on January 24, 2018 were approved as submitted following a motion by Seibert; seconded by Phiefer. All other members were in favor.

Wolf recommended a change to the minutes of the meeting held on January 10, 2018. Storms made the change and presented the revised minutes, which were approved following a motion by Wolf; seconded by Phiefer. All other members were in favor.

Artificial Floating Island

LaGreca said resident Tom McKeon has an update on the local Boy Scout troop's donation of an artificial floating island at Winter's Pond. Wolf said LaGreca presented to the council at its last meeting, and the island was approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Tree Giveaway

Wolf said he would like to request 1,500 trees this year. The application is due February 26, 2018. Wolf proposed a date of Saturday, April 21 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. for the giveaway. Seibert distributed a draft newsletter article announcing the giveaway.

Spring Newsletter Article Submissions

Articles are due for the Spring 2018 Township newsletter. Wolf prepared an article on the upcoming Water Forum, now scheduled for April 19 at 7:30 p.m. LaGreca also submitted an article regarding the Grass Roots Farm initiative.

Anti-Dumping Proposal – Stag Hill

Wolf gave an update on the status of our proposal for anti-dumping enforcement on Stag Hill.

Site Plan Update: Sean Royle, 16 Skytop Drive, Block 154, Lot 17, Docket #1413-16

Storms followed up with the Board of Adjustment regarding the status of this application, which the Commission reviewed in September. The Board of Adjustment did hear the application at its last meeting, but the testimony has not yet concluded. The Public Hearing portion regarding this application will continue at the board's next meeting on February 21, 2018.

Sustainable Jersey Update

LaGreca gave an update on the status of our Sustainable Jersey efforts.

2018 Water Quality Summit

Wolf said he met with Mayor Laforet and resident Peg Bost regarding our upcoming Water Forum, which is now scheduled for Thursday, April 19 at 7 p.m. in the Senior Center.

Orange & Rockland Vegetation Management Plan

Ariemma asked about the status of the company's plans to cut down trees around town. Wolf said he is in contact with a company representative and hopes to schedule a representative to come in and present to the Commission.

SITE PLAN REVIEWS

None received

SOIL MOVEMENT PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Northern Contractors, 767 Darlington Avenue, Block 18, Lot 25, E-BD-216-3043

The Environmental Commission received a Soil Movement Permit Application for an addition and renovation on the property. The application does not indicate any tree removal.

Comments to Administrative Officer and Township Engineer:

Please have the applicant clarify the figures listed under "Description of Soil to be Moved."

The application review was accepted following a motion made by Devaney; seconded by Phiefer. All were in favor.

Peterson Place, LLC, 43 Peterson Place, Block 139, Lot 50.01, Docket #417-51

The Environmental Commission received a Soil Movement Permit Application for the construction of a new single-family dwelling on the property. The Tree Preservation Application indicates 17 trees will be removed, with six replacements of the Pin Oak and Red Maple varieties.

Ariemma noted she has received numerous complaints from a neighbor regarding excessive tree removals on the site and neighboring properties, as well as issues with soil movement on the roadway.

Comments to Administrative Officer and Township Engineer:

Please have the applicant specify where the soil is coming from and if any trees have already been removed on the property prior to obtaining approval. Please also check the wetland proximity and ensure the actual build to plan regarding closeness to the wetlands.

The application review was accepted with the above comments, following a motion made by Devaney; seconded by Phiefer. Ariemma abstained. All other members were in favor.

RJI Properties, 47 Peterson Place, Block 139, Lot 50.03, Docket #417-53

The Environmental Commission received a Soil Movement Permit Application for the construction of a single-family dwelling on the property. The Tree Preservation Application indicates 38 trees will be removed, with 13 replacements.

Comments to Administrative Officer and Township Engineer:

Please if any trees have already been removed on the property prior to obtaining approval. Please also check the wetland proximity and ensure the actual build to plan regarding closeness to the wetlands.

The application review was accepted following a motion made by Seibert; seconded by Devaney. Ariemma abstained. All other members were in favor.

TENANT APPLICATIONS

The following tenant applications were reviewed and approved:

MSN Service, LLC, 73 Ramapo Valley Road, Block 41, Lot 1, TA18-0004

Processing cars – detailing and new car preparation

The Plant Church, 125 Glasgow Terrace, Block 135, Lot 2, TA18-0005

Change of Ownership – church

Longfellow’s Coffee, 72A Franklin Turnpike, Block 68, Lot 15, TA18-0006

Coffee house and cafe

OLD BUSINESS (continued)Artificial Floating Island

Tom McKeon said we need to select a date to install the floating island. Members discussed sometime in May or June. McKeon said he will oversee the construction and installation of the island with the Boy Scouts. Wolf thanked McKeon for the troop’s donation and their involvement in the effort.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received and reviewed:

- Email from AmeriCorps NJ regarding Roots for River Project

- Copy of a letter from Applied Earth Solutions regarding a Response Action Outcome and Report Documentation for Mahwah U-Save, 231 Route 17
- Copy of a letter from PEAK Environmental, LLC, regarding a Remedial Action Protectiveness form for the Mahwah School District Maintenance Garage
- Copy of a letter from EcolSciences, Inc. regarding the remediation of 260 East Crescent Avenue (former Apple Ridge County Club)
- Email from CDP Cities regarding the CDP Cities 2018: Questionnaire and Timelines
- Email newsletter and announcements from the Hackensack Riverkeeper
- Email newsletter of the Joyce Kilmer Society of Mahwah, February 2018
- Email regarding upcoming Project Management Master Certification dates
- Various agendas, minutes and public notices

NEW BUSINESS

“Rockland Recycles” Handout

Seibert distributed a Rockland County home recycling guide. He suggested we put together something similar.

There being no further questions or discussion, the meeting of the Environmental Commission was adjourned at 9:43 p.m. following a motion by Seibert; seconded by Devaney. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 28, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey.

J. Storms
Secretary