

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2019**

The meeting of the Environmental Commission, held at the Municipal Building, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey, was called to order at 7:33 p.m. by Richard Wolf, Chair. The Opening Statement was made. Roll call was taken.

Present: Richard Wolf, Chair
 Janet Ariemma
 Karin LaGreca
 Frank Pallotta, Planning Board Liaison
 Carol Phiefer
 Richard Seibert

Jennifer Storms, Secretary

Absent: Tom McKeon

The minutes of the meeting held on February 27, 2019 were approved as submitted following a motion by Seibert; seconded by LaGreca. Ariemma abstained. All other present members were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

Repair Café Presentation

Tanja Israel and Maiken DuBois (80 Youngs Road) are spearheading a new Repair Café initiative in town. Repair Café is a Dutch initiative started in 2009 in a theatre; today there are approximately 1,800 all over the world (120 in the United States, two of which are in New Jersey (Summit and South Orange)). This is a free community initiative where individuals can bring in broken items and volunteers fix them free of charge. Volunteers are on hand to fix clothing, furniture, electronics, jewelry and much more. Israel said there is an event in Warwick this Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Israel is working on a Repair Café in Mahwah and would like support and ideas from the town. She said finding a good location in town is her first priority. This is a great garbage-diminishing initiative that encourages people to reuse and recycle things to reduce waste.

Members discussed potential upcoming events including our Recycling Forum on October 15 and Mahwah Day; as well as possible locations such as the Mahwah Library and Ramapo College. Israel is going to reach out to the Senior Center and Ramapo College. We will put together an additional list of locations and resources.

Tree Giveaway – Saturday, April 13, 2019

Our Tree Giveaway is scheduled for Saturday, April 13 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. We need to coordinate the pickup of trees with DPW. Members discussed their responsibilities.

LaGreca will prepare a flyer to share with Ariemma, who will post on the town's cable channel. LaGreca will post on our Facebook page. Wolf will ask Deb Burns to post the information on the town website.

Recycling Update

Our Recycling Forum is scheduled for Tuesday, October 15, 2019 from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Kerry Scales, a representative from Rockland County Solid Waste Management Authority, will speak and show a video during the forum. LaGreca gave an update on the status of Tom McKeon's work. The boy scouts are on board to help out with a large electronics disposal event. McKeon is presenting to a group of senior citizens on March 21. Members discussed other potential speakers and topics.

Stag Hill Tire Cleanup

Pallotta reached out to the Bergen County Utilities Authority regarding organizing a tire collection in conjunction with the county's June 8 hazardous waste collection. The county has informed him that they are not able to collect the additional tires from Stag Hill. They suggested we apply for a 2019 Recycling Enhancement Grant from the Bergen County Utilities Authority. Pallotta submitted.

SITE PLAN REVIEWS

None received

SOIL MOVEMENT PERMIT APPLICATIONS

None received

TENANT APPLICATIONS

The following tenant application was reviewed and approved:

Creative Brand Legacy Worldwide, 370 Franklin Turnpike, Block 102, Lot 30, TA19-0005

Supplier of marketing and promotional products

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received and reviewed:

- Email from the Highlands Council regarding the NFWF Delaware Watershed Conservation Fund 2019
- Letter from the Highlands Council regarding the availability of funding in the Highlands Open Space Partnership Funding Program
- Email from North Jersey Youth Audubon regarding a Lake Henry cleanup – Storms will respond and ask for more information
- Letter from Applied Earth Solutions regarding a Withdrawal of a Response Action Outcome dated January 2018 for the Mahwah U-Save
- Public Notice Letter for a Freshwater Wetlands Letter of Interpretation for 251 Route 17 North
- Flyer regarding the upcoming 23rd Annual New Jersey Land Conservation Rally
- Email newsletters from the Hackensack Riverkeeper and NY/NJ Trail Conference

- Various agendas, minutes and public notices

NEW BUSINESS

1 Chapel Road Constituent Call

We received a call from the homeowner of 1 Chapel Avenue, who has been in touch with Planning & Zoning regarding a pond on his property and a fence he is trying to install on the property. There is a pond easement on the property, however Zoning does not know what it is for and they will not approve anything without more information. Storms will follow up with the resident.

Article: NJ Waterways to Receive More Protection Under New Rules

Seibert distributed an article from The Record that highlighted a section of the Ramapo River that will receive increased protection from wastewater, runoff and development along its banks under new rules proposed by the Murphy Administration.

Sustainable Jersey Summit – June 14, 2019

LaGreca is interested in attending Sustainable Jersey Forum on June 14, 2019 in Holmdel. She asked if she can be reimbursed for attendance. Wolf asked Storms to prepare a voucher for the conference fee of \$35. LaGreca will reach out to the organization for payment information. Storms will submit for this payment out of our Training line item.

There being no further questions or discussion, the meeting of the Environmental Commission was adjourned at 9:26 p.m. following a motion by Seibert; seconded by Pallotta. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 27, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey.

J. Storms
Secretary