

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 2018**

The meeting of the Environmental Commission, held at the Municipal Building, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey, was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Richard Wolf, Chair. The Opening Statement was made. Roll call was taken.

Present: Janet Ariemma
Michael Devaney (arrived at 7:45 p.m.)
Karin LaGreca
Carol Phiefer
Richard Seibert
Richard Wolf

Jennifer Storms, Secretary

Absent: Ward Donigian, Planning Board Liaison

The minutes of the meeting held on March 28, 2018 were approved as submitted following a motion by Seibert; seconded by Phiefer. All other members were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

Solar Power Discussion

Members discussed some of their thoughts on how to promote the use of solar energy around town. Ariemma asked whether we could do solar on municipal buildings and the library. Wolf said we can explore different avenues to reduce our energy use around town, but suggested we put this on the backburner until next year.

Orange & Rockland Vegetation Management Plan

Ariemma is still working to coordinate a meeting with representatives from Orange & Rockland, DPW and commission members. She is having trouble getting through to the utility company's representative. Wolf said we should invite DPW Director Glenn Dowson to an upcoming meeting.

Wetlands Research – Ramapo College Student Research

LaGreca said her college students need to conduct their wetlands research in town over the new few weeks in order to present to the Commission before the semester ends.

Sustainable Jersey Update

LaGreca gave an update on the status of our Sustainable Jersey efforts and reminded members to continue working on their respective assignments.

Shade Tree Federation Membership

Storms distributed the 2018 membership cards to members. Municipal membership is limited to five individuals, so Devaney did not receive a card. If he would like to be included as a municipal member, there is an additional fee of \$25.

SITE PLAN REVIEWS

None received

SOIL MOVEMENT PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Anthony Errico, Campgaw Road, Block 147, Lot 8, E-BD-216-3051

The Environmental Commission received a Soil Movement Permit Application and Tree Preservation Application for the construction of a single-family home on the property. The Tree Preservation Application indicates there are 80 trees on the property (additional trees in wetlands were not counted). Of those trees, the applicant plans to remove 37 and make nine replacements.

Comments to Administrative Officer and Township Engineer:

This review is accepted, however please ensure that any trees on the property have not been removed to date. If they have been removed without prior approval, the applicant should be cited.

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

Anthony Errico, 32 Vail Place, Block 147, Lot 4.02, E-BD-216-3049

The Environmental Commission received a Soil Movement Permit Application for additional grading to an existing lot with foundation.

Devaney made a motion to accept the application review. LaGreca seconded. All other members opposed the application review citing lack of information.

Comments to Administrative Officer and Township Engineer:

Please clarify if the DEP approval from 20 years ago still applies to the current land use of the property. Please also have the applicant provide more information regarding the impact of soil movement on the surrounding wetlands.

The application review was rejected following a motion made by Wolf; seconded by Phiefer. Devaney and LaGreca opposed. All other members were in favor.

Leonard and Jennifer Hatton, III, 21 Smokehouse Lane, Block 162, Lot 203.04

The Environmental Commission received a Soil Movement Permit Application and Tree Preservation Application for the construction of a single-family home and related improvements on the property. The Tree Preservation Application indicates there are six trees on the property. The applicant plans to remove four trees and make one replacement.

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

Andrey Zalusky, 11 Harvin Place, Block 167, Lot 62, E-BD-216-3052

The Environmental Commission received a Soil Movement Permit Application to bring in fill for the backyard.

Comments to Administrative Officer and Township Engineer:

This application review is tabled until further information is provided. Please have the applicant indicate how high he plans to raise the ground level (even to the neighboring properties or above). Please also clarify if there is a planned grade to ensure proper run-off (not to neighboring properties).

TENANT APPLICATIONS

The following tenant applications were reviewed and approved:

Capacity Marine Corp, 1 International Blvd, Block 26, Lot 2, TA18-0015

Insurance

Atlantic Risk Specialists, Inc., 1 International Blvd, Block 26, Lot 2, TA18-0016

Insurance

It's a Process, LLC, 65 Ramapo Valley Road, Block 41, Lot 1, TA18-0013

Insurance brokerage

Direct Building Products Corp., 63 Ramapo Valley Road, Block 41, Lot 1, TA18-0014

Building Supply Warehouse

OLD BUSINESS, CONTINUED

Peterson Place Development

Ariemma said she has received numerous complaints from neighbors regarding the development on Peterson Place, which we reviewed at a prior meeting. Wolf said the resident should file a formal complaint with the Planning Office. He will also reach out to Mike Kelly's office to get more information.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received and reviewed:

- Letter from Bergen County Community Development office regarding a Northwest Regional Committee Notice scheduled on April 18 in Wyckoff
- Copy of a letter from PEAK Environmental LLC regarding an Initial Receptor Evaluation for the former Ford Motor Company at 10 Sharp Plaza
- Email from resident regarding the recycling center in Mahwah – Wolf will respond to the resident
- Email from the NY/NJ Trail Conference regarding upcoming events
- Various agendas, minutes and public notices

NEW BUSINESS**Littering Issues**

LaGreca said she has seen an increase in litter around town, and asked if there were any rules regarding littering for businesses. LaGreca said she recently received a marketing pamphlet thrown in her yard. She also said the garbage cans were overflowing at the car wash in town. Seibert said he would follow up at the car wash.

Informational Article – Dumont official on a mission to make sure CSX rails in top shape

Seibert distributed an informational article regarding a Dumont borough administrator who regularly inspects the freight tracks in his town for defects in the railroad tracks.

There being no further questions or discussion, the meeting of the Environmental Commission was adjourned at 10:09 p.m. following a motion by Seibert; seconded by Phiefer. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 25, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey.

J. Storms
Secretary