

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 2016**

The meeting of the Environmental Commission, held at the Municipal Building, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey, was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by Richard Wolf, Chair. The Opening Statement was made. Roll call was taken.

Present: Jonathan Marcus
Carol Phiefer
Richard Reilly
Richard Seibert
Richard Wolf
Jennifer Storms (secretary)

Nicole Mahncke, resident

Absent: Linda Meisel
Daniel Weixeldorfer

Mr. Marcus requested a moment of silence in honor of the passing of Mr. Wiexeldorfer's wife.

The minutes of the meeting held on April 27, 2016 were approved as submitted following a motion by Mr. Seibert; seconded by Mr. Marcus. All members were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

125 Deerhaven Update

Mr. Marcus said the property at 125 Deerhaven is now up for sale. We were waiting for the homeowners to come back to us with a remediation plan before they did any further work, but to date have not heard from them. Mr. Wolf said he would ask Mike Kelly if we can put a lien on the property before it is sold to ensure the remediation previously agreed to is completed.

Pilgrim Pipeline

Mr. Marcus said the County Administrator invited a group of interested parties from Mahwah, including representatives from the Coalition Against the Pilgrim Pipeline, to discuss our outlook and next steps. Mr. Marcus attended the meeting and said the County responded favorably to our plans. He said we look forward to continuing to work together on the issue.

Water Quality Issue in Newburg

Mr. Wolf said the water supply in Newburg was recently shut down due to a hazardous chemical being found in the water. He acknowledged the importance of continued testing and applauded Mahwah's efforts to stay on top of the issue.

SITE PLAN REVIEWS

None received

SOIL MOVEMENT PERMIT APPLICATIONS

The following soil movement permit applications were reviewed:

Diana & Gary Wenthold, 56 McIntosh Drive, Block 120.01, Lot 23, E-BD-216-2903

The Environmental Commission reviewed a Soil Movement Permit Application and Tree Preservation Application submitted by Diana & Gary Wenthold for the construction of a new home. There are 79 trees on the property; the homeowners would like to remove 51 trees and replace them with 12 Evergreens. There was a letter from Tim Sheekey of Mahwah Tree Corp. explaining the tree removal recommendations.

Comments to Administrative Officer and Township Engineer:

The Environmental Commission would like to request a site visit with Mr. Sheekey from Mahwah Tree Corp. to stake the property and observe the trees they are proposing to remove. Please note that replacement trees are required to be native deciduous hardwoods such as oak, maple, hickory and others. Evergreens may be planted on the property, but they will not count as replacement trees. Please also note the replacement number should be 13 trees (replacement requirement is one tree for every four removed).

The Tree Preservation application review is on hold pending the site visit. The Soil Movement application was approved following a motion made by Mr. Wolf; seconded by Mrs. Phiefer. All were in favor.

Thomas Kayal, 1 Kayal Court, Block 120.01, Lot 23, E-BD-216-2903

The Environmental Commission reviewed a Soil Movement Permit Application submitted by Thomas Kayal for the construction of a new home.

Comments to Administrative Officer and Township Engineer:

Please note that under the soil movement permit “description of soil to be moved,” the figures need correction (page 1). The volume of cut and import are fine, but there is an excess of 145 cubic yards. Will this be exported?

The Soil Movement application was approved following a motion made by Mr. Wolf; seconded by Mr. Reilly. All were in favor.

TENANT APPLICATIONS

The following tenant applications were reviewed:

Bergen County Auto Group, LLC, 159-161 Franklin Turnpike, Block 70, Lots 110 & 111, TA16-0022

Used auto sales

The application was approved following a motion made by Mrs. Phiefer; seconded by Mr. Reilly. All were in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received and reviewed:

- Copy of a NJDEP Letter of Interpretation Line Verification & Flood Hazard Area Verification for Express Scripts, Block 170, Lots 10 & 11 and Block 180, Lots 1 & 2.
- Email invite regarding the 2016 Environmental Conference in Hackensack on May 19, 2016.
- Copy of a NJDEP Flood Hazard Area Verification & Individual Permit for Anthony Fasciano, Et Al, Monroe Drive, Block 149, Lot 20.
- Copy of a letter regarding a NJDEP Flood Hazard Area Verification and Letter of Interpretation Line Verification for Express Scripts, Block 170, Lots 10 & 11 and Block 180, Lots 1 & 2.
- Various agendas, minutes and public notices.

NEW BUSINESS

Ramapo Ridge Tree Removal

We received an email from Tom Mulvey regarding a tree removal request from Wilkens Management, who said they would like to remove 100-130 trees at Ramapo Ridge due to the trees causing foundation issues, etc. Mr. Wolf asked Mr. Mulvey to have them prepare a formal proposal and application for the property and we will conduct a site visit.

Mahwah Museum Tree Removal

Mrs. Phiefer said the town recently removed some trees from the Mahwah Museum property. Museum representatives asked Mrs. Phiefer if we had any suggestions for planting any additional trees. Mr. Wolf said while they do not have to replace the trees, they may want to reach out to MEVO and DPW to plant some additional trees.

Campgaw Road Issue

Mrs. Phiefer said she noticed there is a home on Campgaw Road that seems to be moving a lot of soil and making berms on the property. Mr. Marcus said he would drive by the property and take a look.

Tree Company Permits

Mrs. Phiefer said she thinks tree removal companies should be required to get tree removal permits. Mr. Wolf said we drafted an ordinance more than a year ago in cooperation from the Planning Office. The ordinance addressed this. He will ask Mike Kelly about the status of the ordinance to get it in front of the Town Council's Ordinance Committee.

Nikki Manx Dance Project, Dances of the Earth & Social Change

Nicole Mahncke, a resident in Franklin Heights, attended tonight's meeting to introduce herself. She said she runs a nonprofit dance company that supports environmental awareness and educational initiatives for children, and that she is interested in doing some future hands-on initiatives in cooperation with the Environmental Commission. Members welcomed her for attending the meeting, and said they would welcome the opportunity to do something with her group in the future; particularly for our upcoming Mahwah Day.

There being no further questions or discussion, the meeting of the Environmental Commission was adjourned at 9 p.m. following a motion by Mr. Marcus; seconded by Mr. Reilly. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 25, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey.

J. Storms
Secretary