

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2019**

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

Jennifer Storms, Secretary

The minutes of the meeting held on May 8, 2019 were approved as submitted following a motion by Seibert; seconded by Phiefer. Pallotta abstained. All other present members were in favor.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Stag Hill Tire Collection**

The next scheduled tire collection will take place on June 8 in conjunction with the county's hazardous waste pickup. MEVO is coordinating the pick-up with DPW to ensure they remove the roadside trash as soon as possible. Pallotta will coordinate.

**Reusable Bag Update**

Members discussed the images and text they would like to see printed on the reusable bags we are ordering as giveaways this year. Wolf will explore options to discuss at our next meeting.

**Artificial Turf Update**

Wolf said the town plans to go out to bid sometime around July, so we need to submit our research to the business administrator sometime in June. McKeon also has been researching some of the alternatives. He spoke to representatives in Glen Rock who have also explored several alternatives. Wolf said he would like to explore three options – new rubber crumb, a cork/plant alternative and grass – as well as the environmental impacts, health implications and annual maintenance fees for each option. Seibert said he will get a price on sod versus grass.

**Rain Garden**

LaGreca is coordinating Phase III with DPW. She said the donation of rip rap rock from Bergen Brick was delivered onsite today.

Stag Hill Update

Ariemma asked for an update on the camera options we are exploring for Stag Hill. She said there has been an increase in car break-ins in parks around town, and the town is exploring the use of cameras throughout town as a deterrent. LaGreca said she researched different camera options with MEVO and will submit a purchase requisition when ready.

**SITE PLAN REVIEWS**

*None received*

**SOIL MOVEMENT PERMIT APPLICATIONS**

Toll NJ, IV, LLC, 27 Roxbury Road, Block 127.01, Lot 8, E-BD-216-3132

The Environmental Commission reviewed a Soil Movement Permit Application for a new single-family dwelling.

The review of this application was accepted following a motion made by Pallotta; seconded by McKeon. Seibert and Ariemma voted nay. All other members were in favor of accepting the application.

Apple Ridge Condo Association, 400 Apple Ridge Blvd., Block 126, Lot 114, E-BD-216-3140

The Environmental Commission reviewed a Soil Movement Permit Application and Tree Preservation Application for the replacement of an existing railroad tie retaining wall. The Tree Preservation Plan indicates 16 trees will be removed and replaced with 16 Norway Spruce.

*Comments to Administrative Officer*

The Commission recommends the applicant test the 128 cubic yards of soil being removed to ensure any contaminants are not relocated. The Tree Preservation Plan appears to be incorrect. There are at least 38 trees marked for removal on the site plan. Please have the applicant clarify. Also, Norway Spruce is not on the town's list of approved replacement trees.

The review of this application was rejected following a motion made by Seibert; seconded by Pallotta. Wolf cast the dissenting vote, voting in favor of approving the application with comments. All other members were in favor of rejecting the application until clarification is provided.

Toll NJ, IV, LLC, 31 Roxbury Road, Block 127.01, Lot 7, E-BD-216-3141

The Environmental Commission reviewed a Soil Movement Permit Application for a new single-family dwelling.

The review of this application was accepted following a motion made by McKeon; seconded by Phiefer. Seibert and Ariemma voted nay. All other members were in favor.

Toll NJ, IV, LLC, 35 Roxbury Road, Block 127.01, Lot 6, E-BD-216-3142

The Environmental Commission reviewed a Soil Movement Permit Application for a new single-family dwelling.

The review of this application was accepted following a motion made by Wolf; seconded by Pallotta. Seibery and Ariemma voted nay. All other members were in favor.

Toll NJ, IV, LLC, 11 Braeburn Court, Block 127, Lot 40, E-BD-216-3143

The Environmental Commission reviewed a Soil Movement Permit Application for a new single-family dwelling.

The review of this application was accepted following a motion made by Seibert; seconded by LaGreca. All other members were in favor.

**TENANT APPLICATIONS**

The following tenant applications were reviewed and approved:

Shiplion, Inc., 65 Ramapo Valley Road, Block 41, Lot 1, TA19-0012  
*Consulting*

Pershawri Grill, 164 Franklin Turnpike, Block 71, Lot 9, TA19-0013  
*Indian restaurant*

**CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence was received and reviewed:

- Email letter from DEP regarding the execution of our Green Communities Grant for the development of a community forestry management plan
- Email from resident regarding local composting options
- Letter from the DEP regarding an adopted amendment to the Northeast Water Quality Management Plan for the Rizzi-Fasciano Development, Block 149, Lot 20
- Emails from ANJEC regarding recent and upcoming events
- Email newsletters from the Hackensack Riverkeeper
- Certification form from the DEP regarding FedEx Corporation, 320 Route 17 South
- Application for a line verification/transition area waiver for Block 21, Lot 11
- Email from Rutgers regarding upcoming Grant Development Workshop
- Various agendas, minutes and public notices

**NEW BUSINESS**

Tree Removals at Commodore Perry Field

Ariemma said there have been numerous trees cut down for the light replacement. She asked who the tree company obtained approval from. Wolf asked Storms to check with the Planning Department whether a permit was filed.

**OLD BUSINESS, continued**

Constituent Call

Wolf said he spoke to the homeowner of 759 Wyckoff Avenue, who said his homeowner's association indicating plans to treat the pond on his property with a

chemical to remove weeds. The resident feels there are more eco-friendly alternatives to treat the pond. He is seeking guidance from the Commission. Wolf requested additional information on the proposed treatment. Members discussed the issue. Wolf will follow up with the resident.

**NEW BUSINESS, *continued***

**Thunderbird Run**

McKeon said he participated in the Thunderbird Run over the weekend. He said the event organizers gave out several free items in each runner's packet that were made of plastic. He said he would like to contact the organizers next year in an effort to be more sustainable.

**Plastic Straw Ban**

Seibert said he heard Glen Rock is banning plastic straws in town. He asked if we should follow suit. Members discussed supporting a plastic straw ban in town and ways to reduce our use.

There being no further questions or discussion, the meeting of the Environmental Commission was adjourned at 10:05 p.m. following a motion by Pallotta; seconded by McKeon. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 12, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey.

J. Storms  
Secretary