

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13, 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

Ward Donigian, Planning Board Liaison (arrived 7:47 p.m.)
Jennifer Storms, Secretary

Wolf requested a few revisions to the prepared minutes of the meeting held on May 23, 2018. The revised minutes of that meeting were approved following a motion by Devaney; seconded by LaGreca. All other members were in favor.

PRESENTATION

Wolf welcomed Kris Hasbrouck, Borough Tree Specialist from Franklin Lakes, to the meeting. Hasbrouck is a Licensed Tree Expert with local expertise. He discussed such things as his work in Franklin Lakes, his experience in neighboring communities, various liability issues for towns to consider, and the importance of a Community Forestry Management Plan.

Wolf said we are looking for guidance on how to plan for the next five years, and he explained that we have funding in this year's budget for an arborist. He said he would like to hire Hasbrouck to help us develop a plan to present and begin executing next year.

Hasbrouck recommended we start by developing a plan for 2019 and suggested we designate members for a subcommittee. Ariemma, Devaney and Phiefer volunteered. Hasbrouck asked if they were available to meet during the second week of July. We will try to establish guidelines as to what we want to accomplish. Hasbrouck will submit a formal proposal and summary on what is needed for a Community Forestry Management Plan.

OLD BUSINESS

Rain Garden Update

LaGreca said we are planning to have the landscape company continue its work in August. Members discussed the variety of car stops available to be used in the nearby parking lot. LaGreca said she anticipates them costing about \$30 to \$40 per piece.

The Rain Garden sign that was recently vandalized has been fixed.

Public Launch of Artificial Floating Island – Saturday, June 16

LaGreca said she saw the Artificial Floating Island and commended resident Tom McKeon on his work. McKeon has scheduled the launch for 3 p.m. that afternoon. He also discussed the signage he plans to have made for the island.

Sustainable Jersey Update

LaGreca said we have submitted for approximately 400 points toward our Sustainable Jersey designation. This is well beyond the amount of points needed for Bronze certification. Members commended LaGreca for her work.

Wolf said we need to officially approve Karin LaGreca's proposal for professional services. He told members we have a budget of \$15,000 for professional services this year. Wolf proposed we approve LaGreca's contract for up to \$10,000 based on the hours she has already worked and will continue to work for the rest of the year. LaGreca's proposal was approved following a motion by Seibert; seconded by Phiefer. All other members were in favor.

SITE PLAN REVIEWS

BP Products of North America, 144 Route 17 South, Block 132, Lots 5 & 6

The Environmental Commission received a Board of Adjustment Application for the replacement and upgrading of tanks on the property.

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

SOIL MOVEMENT PERMIT APPLICATIONS

None received

TENANT APPLICATIONS

The following tenant applications were reviewed and approved:

DRSJG LLC, 1 International Blvd., 2nd Floor, Suite 214, Block 26, Lot 2, TA18-0022

Oral health and beauty products

Ramsey Auto Group, 10 Industrial Avenue, Block 110.01, Lot 8, TA18-0023

Auto dealership sales – outdoor vehicle storage only

James Gray, Esq., 200 Route 17 South, Suite 118, Block 132, Lot 11, TA18-0024

Law office

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received and reviewed:

- Copy of a letter from ETI regarding an application for Freshwater Wetlands Letter of Interpretation for Craig and Patricia Clifford, Halifax Road, Block 1, Lot 130.08

- Copy of a letter from EcolSciences, Inc, regarding an Area of Concern Unrestricted Use Response Action Outcome Amendment on the site of the former Apple Ridge Country Club, 269 East Crescent Avenue
- Email from CDP Cities regarding CDP disclosure
- Email newsletters from the NY/NJ Trail Conference
- Various agendas, minutes and public notices

NEW BUSINESS

Request for Access to Government Records

The Commission was copied on a Request for Access to Government Records dated June 11, 2018. Storms searched through the Commission's files and found nothing that applied to this request. Storms sent the request for information back to the Clerk's Office on June 13, 2018.

Year in Review

Wolf asked members what things we would all like to focus on next year. Members agreed they would like to focus on a Tree Plan, Water Conservation, and an updated Recycling Center.

Winter's Park Issues

LaGreca said she recently visited Winter's Park and saw that there were still many areas of the park roped off due to the flooding. Wolf said he will mention this to DPW.

Rain Garden Signage

LaGreca said she plans to order a sign for the Rain Garden to prohibit people from feeding the geese. This has become an ongoing problem in the area.

There being no further questions or discussion, the meeting of the Environmental Commission was adjourned at 9:49 p.m. following a motion by Wolf; seconded by Seibert. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 27, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey.

J. Storms
Secretary