

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 25, 2018**

The meeting of the Environmental Commission, held at the Municipal Building, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey, was called to order at 7:32 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 8:26 p.m.)

Jennifer Storms, Secretary

The minutes of the meeting held on July 11, 2018 were approved as submitted following a motion by Seibert; seconded by LaGreca. Wolf and Ariemma abstained. All other members were in favor.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Sustainable Jersey Updates

LaGreca said we still need a resolution from Town Council supporting our involvement with Sustainable Jersey to receive our Bronze level certification. There are still several items we need to update prior to the September 9<sup>th</sup> deadline. LaGreca gave an update on the various items we still need to complete.

Artificial Floating Island & Rain Garden Update

LaGreca said the artificial floating island and rain garden at Winters Park are doing well. She said more work is expected to be completed in August or September.

Mahwah Day Update

LaGreca discussed doing something on composting at Mahwah Day. Members briefly discussed the benefits of composting.

MEVO/DPW Cleanup Day

LaGreca reminded members that MEVO/DPW is hosting a cleanup day throughout town on October 20, 2018.

Soil Movement Permit Application Update

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

Devaney asked if we received a response from the applicant regarding a Soil Movement Permit Application for additional grading to an existing lot on the property. In April, the

Commission rejected the application pending more information regarding the impact of soil movement on the surrounding wetlands. Storms will ask for an update.

#### Arborist Update

Devaney asked if anything has happened with our work obtaining a part-time arborist. Ariemma, Phiefer and Devaney will contact the arborist from Franklin Lakes to schedule a meeting.

#### **SITE PLAN REVIEWS**

Ramsey Auto Group, 10 Industrial Avenue, Block 110.01, Lot 8, Dkt. #595

The Environmental Commission received a Planning Board Application for outdoor vehicle storage on a portion of the property.

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

Domingo Grullon – Minor Subdivision, 3 Devine Drive, Block 58, Lot 2, Dkt. #594

The Environmental Commission received a Planning Board Application for a minor subdivision of the property to create a second building lot for a single-family home.

Ariemma had a concern that any new construction on the subdivided property would further crowd a densely populated area and change the neighbors' current spacing and sightlines. As no building plans were submitted, any construction would have to comply with zoning regulations for the area and neighbors would be notified to review any proposed construction.

The application review was accepted following a motion by Wolf; seconded by Devaney. Seibert abstained. Ariemma opposed. Phiefer and LaGreca were in favor.

#### **SOIL MOVEMENT PERMIT APPLICATIONS**

Bruce Grobman, 20 Polo Lane, Block 1, Lot 130.03, E-BD-216-3070

The Environmental Commission received a Soil Movement Permit Application for a garage and driveway extension and renovation. There is no tree removal indicated on the application.

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

#### **TENANT APPLICATIONS**

The following tenant application was reviewed and approved:

Aero Athletics Training, LLC, 31 Industrial Avenue, Block 102, Lot 32, TA18-0029

*Cross Fit, Weight Training School*

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence was received and reviewed:

- Copy of a letter from CME Associates regarding public notification and outreach farms for the Bergen County Police and Fire Academy
- Copy of a letter from Boswell Engineering regarding an application for a Flood Hazard Area General Permit for Parsons Pond Park
- Copy of a letter from Whitman regarding a Response Action Outcome for 10 Industrial Avenue
- Email from Administration regarding the deadline for submissions for the 2018 Fall Newsletter
- Email regarding the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Growing Sustainable Communities Conference
- Emails from CDP Cities regarding upcoming deadlines
- Email from the Passaic River Institute asking for donations to purchase an incubator that will preserve algae cultures collected in NJ waters
- Email regarding the 2018 Highlands Region Land Preservation Status Report
- Email newsletter from the NY/NJ Trail Conference
- Various agendas, minutes and public notices

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### Carmel Retreat Property

Ariemma asked if there was anything we can do to raise support to purchase and preserve the Carmel Retreat Property. LaGreca said she will research potential Open Space Grant opportunities. Wolf said he will ask for further guidance.

#### Pest Control Solicitation

Storms said the Commission received a call from a resident who was approached at her home by a salesperson from a pest control company. The salesperson told the resident the company was “involved with Mahwah Environmental.” The resident wanted to give us the heads up that the company is canvassing the neighborhood. Seibert said they also came to his home. Storms will prepare something for inclusion on the Commission’s Facebook page.

#### Resident Inquiry: Tree Removal at Pond Meadows

The Environmental Commission received a call from the resident who was concerned about significant locust tree removals at the Pond Meadows development. Storms spoke to the Planning & Zoning Department and was told the property managers have been in contact with the town regarding the tree removals. They are in compliance with all of the removals. Geri Entrup from Planning & Zoning followed up with the resident.

#### Apple Ridge Update

Ariemma said there are still issues regarding the pumping on the property. She asked if anyone had additional updates.

#### Beautification Committee

Donigian announced the town’s Beautification Committee has been reformed. If anyone is interested in participating, he can provide additional details.

There being no further questions or discussion, the meeting of the Environmental Commission was adjourned at 9:10 p.m. following a motion by Wolf; seconded by Seibert. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 8, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey.

J. Storms  
Secretary