

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 2017**

The meeting of the Environmental Commission, held at the Municipal Building, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey, was called to order at 7:37 p.m. by Richard Wolf, Chair. The Opening Statement was made. Roll call was taken.

Present: Karin LaGreca
Carol Phiefer
Richard Seibert
Richard Wolf

Tobiah Horton, Extension Specialist in Landscape Architecture, Rutgers Cooperative Extension

Brian Phiefer, Growing 360 Landscape Architecture, Mahwah

Allie Grinkevich, MEVO
Rachel Laub, MEVO/Ramapo College
Angela Capalbo, MEVO

Jennifer Storms, Secretary

Absent: Janet Ariemma
Michael Devaney
Richard Reilly
Ward Donigian, Planning Board Liaison

The minutes of the meeting held on July 12, 2017 were approved as submitted following a motion by Seibert; seconded by Phiefer. All other members were in favor.

Rain Garden Presentation

Wolf introduced Tobiah Horton from the Rutgers Cooperative Extension, who presented an initial concept plan for the rain garden. Horton discussed the overall layout of the concept design as well as the amount of plants and stones he estimates we will need. Members discussed the timeline for the creation of the rain garden. Horton said he will also put together a maintenance plan. Wolf said we are expecting to host a grand opening for the rain garden at Mahwah Day on September 23, and that we hope to get this on tomorrow night's Council's agenda.

OLD BUSINESS

MEVO Work Planning Session

Wolf discussed MEVO's presentation regarding "Mahwah's Response to Dumping," which highlighted the upcoming actions we would like to see happen. MEVO will attend our next meeting to discuss the ongoing work.

Polo Shirts

Wolf distributed the new polo shirts to members.

37 Bayberry Drive – Application Update

At its May 24, 2017 Meeting, the Environmental Commission reviewed a Soil Movement Application and Tree Preservation Application for the construction of a single-family home at the above property. The application indicated the applicant would like to remove six trees and make zero replacements. LaGreca recently went past the property and noticed a lot of trees marked with orange ties. Storms checked with the Planning Department and was told an amended plan was approved at the Planning Board's June 12, 2017 meeting. With the amended plan, the applicant was approved to remove seven trees and plant two replacements. Storms will request a copy of the amended plan for members to review.

Sustainable Jersey Recertification

Wolf reminded members that we will work on this more at our next meeting on August 9. LaGreca discussed some of the things on which we need to move forward. Brian Phiefer is also going to help with some of the work. Wolf pulled up the website to show members how to navigate the site. Members discussed the various priorities each individual will handle.

Resident Inquiry Regarding Tree Trimming

At our last meeting, members discussed an email from a resident regarding tree trimming in a flood zone on his property. Wolf spoke to the town and was told this is out of our jurisdiction. Wolf will follow up with the resident.

Mahwah Day Update

Members briefly discussed our displays for Mahwah Day. Wolf asked Storms to see if the signup forms are available yet.

SITE PLAN REVIEWS

None received

SOIL MOVEMENT PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Gregg Stolzberg, 2 Seton Lane, Block 21.04, Lot 12, E-BD-216-304-635

The Environmental Commission reviewed a Soil Movement Application for the installation of an in-ground pool.

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

Robyn D'Angelo, 14 Vail Place, Block 147, Lot 6, E-BD-216-3002

The Environmental Commission reviewed a Soil Movement Application for a home addition.

Comments to Administrative Officer and Township Engineer:
Please ensure the imported soil is tested.

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

TENANT APPLICATIONS

None received

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received and reviewed:

- Mailing from RAMM Environmental regarding 20th Anniversary and updated pricing schedule
- Email from local cub scout leader requesting we add an educational link to the township website
- Email from the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference regarding upcoming events
- Email from the Business Administrator regarding adding a clean energy link under the Environmental Commission's page on the website.
- Joyce Kilmer Society of Mahwah Newsletter, July 2017 Issue, Volume 5, Issue 7
- Various agendas, minutes and public notices

NEW BUSINESS

Fall Newsletter Submission

We received an email from the Mayor's Office regarding a submission for the upcoming Fall Newsletter. The Mayor's Office has requested we submit an article on the new Rain Garden. Wolf said MEVO will also submit an article.

Water System Meeting

Seibert said he had a meeting with Paul Scherer, the town's Water Department Superintendent, to discuss how our water system works. He also spoke to the town's Business Administrator, who said he is going to look into a replacement for Scherer when he retires in the next few years. Wolf asked Seibert to prepare a write-up with this information.

There being no further questions or discussion, the meeting of the Environmental Commission was adjourned at 9:20 p.m. following a motion by Seibert; seconded by Wolf. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 9, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey.

J. Storms
Secretary