

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2017**

The meeting of the Environmental Commission, held at the Municipal Building, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey, was called to order at 7:41 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 Reilly
Richard Seibert
Richard Wolf

Ward Donigian, Planning Board Liaison

Angela Capalbe, MEVO
Allie Grinkevich, MEVO
Rachel Laub, MEVO/Ramapo College
Van Trat, MEVO/Ramapo College

Suzanne Driscoll 25 Stone Fence Road
Megan Charles & Eric Fein, 10 Skytop Drive
Alexandra Schutz, 14 Skytop Drive
Robert & Kim Condatore, 6 Skytop Drive

Jennifer Storms, Secretary

The minutes of the meeting held on August 23, 2017 were approved as submitted following a motion by Seibert; seconded by Phiefer. All other members were in favor.

Block 154, Lot 17 Zoning Board Application

The Environmental Commission received an email from several residents regarding a zoning application for a property on Skytop Drive, Block 154, Lot 17. Several residents were in attendance to oppose the pending application. Resident Sue Driscoll gave an overview of the history of the property as well as the owner's plan to develop the property. Donigian applauded the group's efforts.

The application is currently under review with the town's Planning/Zoning Officer and the various commissions before it goes in front of the Zoning Board. To date, the Environmental Commission has not received a formal application for review. Wolf said when we do receive the site plan, we will take the group's environmental concerns into consideration. Wolf also said we will let the neighbors know when we receive the application so they can attend that meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

MEVO Stag Hill Update

The MEVO group gave an update on MEVO's Stag Hill research as well as their booth for Mahwah Day. Members discussed the importance of MEVO's efforts.

Mahwah Day Update

Members discussed our displays for Mahwah Day on September 23.

SITE PLAN REVIEWS

Hind Kesilyas, 217 Airmount Road, Block 101, Lot 6, Docket #1429-17

The Environmental Commission reviewed a Board of Adjustment Application to construct a single-family home on a lot with deficient lot area and depth.

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

TWJ Mahwah Real Estate, 64 Ramapo Valley Road, Block 40, Lots 25 & 57, Docket #568PF-A

The Environmental Commission reviewed a Planning Board Application for the renovation of the entire building on the property to establish a 50-seat restaurant together with renovations to the garage and parking areas. This is an amended site plan as a result of the applicant receiving DEP approval to move the parking lot closer to the top of the river bank.

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

SOIL MOVEMENT PERMIT APPLICATIONS

None received

TENANT APPLICATIONS

The following tenant applications were reviewed and approved:

High Five Games, LLC, 1200 Macarthur Boulevard, Block 139, Lot 2, TA17-0040
Technology – gaming

Beautiful Windows and Design, 45 Whitney Road, Lower Level, Block 173, Lot 147, TA17-0041
Interior Design

Givan, Inc., 45 Whitney Road, Unit 1, Block 173, Lot 147, TA17-0042
Wholesale Costume Jewelry

BP Gas Station, 140 Franklin Turnpike, Block 71, Lot 3, TA17-0043
Gas Station

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received and reviewed:

- Email from resident regarding a request to host a public Water Forum for residents – Wolf will follow up on this
- Copy of Township Resolution #296-17 regarding the Rain Garden at Winters Pond
- Flyer for the Annual Bergen County Community Development Application Workshop on September 15, 2017
- Brochure for the NJ Shade Tree Federation's 92nd Annual Conference on October 19 & 20, 2017
- Email from CDP Cities regarding the upcoming North America Workshop on October 25, 2017
- Email newsletter of the Joyce Kilmer Society of Mahwah, September 2017, Volume 5, Issue 9
- Email from New York-New Jersey Trail Conference regarding upcoming events
- Copy of a non-compliance notification regarding deed notice requirements for Block 136, Lot 1, 220 Route 17
- Hackensack Tidelines Newsletter, Summer 2017, Volume XX, Issue 2
- Various agendas, minutes and public notices

NEW BUSINESS

Merrill Drive Tree Removal Sidewalk Issue

Ariemma said she was made aware of a situation where DPW workers cut down a lot of trees on Merrill Drive to install new sidewalks. Ariemma said she understands there is no plan to replace any of the trees. She said she does not agree with this approach at all, and plans to discuss this at the next council meeting. Members discussed the need for a plan to replant trees in any neighborhood once they are cut down. Members also reiterated the benefit of having a Shade Tree Commission in town.

Renewable Energy Handout

Seibert distributed an informational handout regarding the growth of renewable sources of energy.

Rain Garden Update

LaGreca said work on the Rain Garden is moving forward as planned. Our grand opening dedication will take place at 10:30 a.m. during Mahwah Day on September 23. We are printing signage for the event. LaGreca will provide all of the relevant backup information to Storms, who will prepare any related vouchers.

There being no further questions or discussion, the meeting of the Environmental Commission was adjourned at 10:06 p.m. following a motion by Wolf; seconded by Phiefer. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 27, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey.

J. Storms
Secretary