

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2018**

The meeting of the Environmental Commission, held at the Municipal Building, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey, was called to order at 7:42 p.m. by Richard Wolf, Chair. The Opening Statement was made. Roll call was taken.

Present: Janet Ariemma
Michael Devaney
Karin LaGreca
Richard Seibert
Richard Wolf
Ward Donigian, Planning Board Liaison

Jennifer Storms, Secretary

Absent: Carol Phiefer

The minutes of the meeting held on October 10, 2018 were approved as submitted following a motion by Seibert; seconded by LaGreca. All other members were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

Mahwah Earth Action Day

Wolf said Mahwah Earth Action Day was a success. There were approximately 75 participants that collected about 200 bags of garbage across the town. Wolf thanked MEVO and DPW for their involvement.

New Member Appointment

Tom McKeon, 70 Malcolm Road, has been appointed to the Commission pending final approval from the Mayor's Office. He will be filling Richard Reilly's remaining term. Wolf welcomed him to the Commission and thanked him for his participation.

Apple Ridge Site Visit Update

Commission members Devaney, Ariemma and Seibert – along with Donigian and Administrative Officer Mike Kelly – attended an on-site meeting with representatives from Toll Brothers to learn more about the pumping taking place on the property.

Donigian said the representatives did a great job explaining how the detention basins are working. He distributed a letter from Boswell Engineering to Upper Saddle River. Upper Saddle River has hired Boswell to conduct surface water testing and test for arsenic at a total of five sample locations. All of the samples met the federal and state drinking water standards. Boswell Engineering will continue with monthly sampling of these waterways and share the results with Mahwah.

Ariemma noted her continuing concerns regarding the pumping of the water. Wolf said he also still has concerns regarding the pumping on the site, even though he believes Toll Brothers is working within the requirements of the law.

Wolf said he will follow up with Mike Kelly to better understand the issue. Seibert also said he would like to meet with Paul Scherer to discuss the site's sewer plans.

SITE PLAN REVIEWS

None received

SOIL MOVEMENT PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Jacob Bogatch, 27 Spruce Road, Block 6, Lots 1 & 29, Docket #1441-18(S)

The Environmental Commission reviewed a Soil Movement Permit Application for a plot plan for a single-family home with driveway, pool, deck and patio. The attached Tree Preservation Application indicates 47 trees will be removed, with 12 replacements of the Dogwood, Cherry and Red Maple varieties.

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

Elisa Carril, 28 Snow Drive, Block 75, Lot 2, E-BD-216-3102

The Environmental Commission reviewed a Soil Movement Permit Application for the construction of a three-car garage and connecting driveway. There is no related tree removal indicated.

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

Mark Matthews, 27 Osbourne Court, Block 126, Lot 138, E-BD-216-3107

The Environmental Commission reviewed a Soil Movement Permit Application for an addition. There is no related tree removal indicated.

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

TENANT APPLICATIONS

The following tenant applications were reviewed and approved:

Executive Property Maintenance LLC, 94B North Ramapo Avenue, Block 32, Lot 4, TA18-0037

Change of ownership form for property maintenance/landscape company

Walmart Stores East LP, 555 MacArthur Blvd., Block 135, Lot 61.02, TA18-0038

Temporary storage of retail merchandise

Gorilla BJJ Academy, LLC, 31 Industrial Avenue, Block 102, Lot 32, TA18-0039

Martial Arts Academy

First Source Appraisal, 575 Corporate Drive, Block 137, Lot 11, TA18-0040
Appraisals

Namastee India, LLC, 44 Franklin Turnpike, Block 68, Lot 8, TA18-0036
Change of ownership form for diner/restaurant

Comments to Construction Office:

Please clarify if this is for the entire space of diner/restaurant or a portion. If this is the entire space, are the hours of operation correct?

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received and reviewed:

- Email from resident concerning new trees planted at the intersection of Route 202 and Darlington Avenue – referred to county
- Email from resident on Airmount Road who expressed concerns regarding Rockland Electric’s tree pruning in his neighborhood – members discussed
- Email from the Sustainable City Network regarding an upcoming webinar
- Email newsletters from the Hackensack Riverkeeper and NY/NJ Trail Conference
- Copy of a NJDEP Transition Area Waiver Individual Permit for Block 48, Lot 1
- Copy of a NJDEP Flood Hazard Area General Permit and FHA Verification regarding Block 48, Lot 1
- Various agendas, minutes and public notices

NEW BUSINESSGreen Communities Grant

Wolf submitted our grant application for the Green Communities Grant to support the development of a Community Forestry Management Plan. We applied for a \$3,000 matching grant, for a project total of \$6,000. Our next step will be working with the arborist to draft a plan.

2019 Meeting Dates

Storms distributed the Commission’s 2019 Meeting Dates for review and approval. The meeting dates were approved following a motion made by LaGreca; seconded by Seibert. All were in favor. Storms will post online and issue public notice.

2019 Temporary Budget Request

The Environmental Commission received a memo from Administration regarding our 2019 Temporary Budget. Members discussed our budget priorities for the upcoming year, including a Stag Hill remediation project. Our 2019 budget request is due Wednesday, November 21.

Stag Hill Remediation Project

Members discussed moving forward with a Stag Hill remediation plan. We would like to start the process this year. LaGreca will reach out for an estimate for anti-dumping signage.

Bike-Walk Path

LaGreca met with a representative from the Department of Transportation to discuss our plans for a bike-walk path in town. Wolf said he believes the state will appoint someone to conduct a feasibility study. He asked members to review the draft plan and we will discuss at our next meeting.

Constituent Email

The Commission received an email from a constituent who is concerned about a cell tower that is proposed to be built on BOE wetlands. The constituent voiced his concerns at the October 14, 2018 council meeting and forwarded his research to the Commission. Members discussed.

There being no further questions or discussion, the meeting of the Environmental Commission was adjourned at 10:12 p.m. following a motion by Seibert; seconded by LaGreca. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 14, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey.

J. Storms
Secretary