

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 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: Michael Devaney
Tom McKeon
Carol Phiefer
Richard Seibert
Richard Wolf

Jennifer Storms, Secretary

Absent: Janet Ariemma
Karin LaGreca
Ward Donigian, Planning Board Liaison

The minutes of the meeting held on October 24, 2018 were approved as submitted following a motion by Seibert; seconded by Devaney. Phiefer abstained. All other members were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

Sustainable Jersey Luncheon

LaGreca and Ariemma attended the 2018 Sustainable Jersey luncheon and accepted our award on behalf of the town.

Green Communities Grant

Wolf said he needs to follow up with the business administrator regarding 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. Wolf said we should have Kris Hasbrouck submit a proposal for the drafting of the tree management plan to encumber those funds in 2018.

Stag Hill Remediation Project

Members discussed moving forward with a Stag Hill anti-dumping remediation plan. Wolf said we are going to encumber the funds for supplies in 2018.

Recycling Bin Update

Wolf asked members if they would like to encumber any funds from our 2018 budget for additional recycling bins.

Apple Ridge Pumping Update

Wolf gave an update on the pumping taking place on the site. He said he has spoken with Boswell Engineering regarding the ongoing surface water testing for lead and arsenic, and that initial testing indicates below-standard levels of lead and arsenic. He believes the actions taken to date will not add to the levels of lead and arsenic downstream. Wolf is still concerned about the mud and silt entering Pleasant Creek from the site. Members will continue to monitor the situation to see if planned basin work, creek reconstruction and re-vegetation will lessen the future runoff of mud and silt. If runoff levels continue to create problems downstream, we will consider requesting governing agencies to re-visit compliance on site.

2019 Temporary and Final Budget Request

The Commission's 2019 Temporary and Final Budgets are due. Members discussed our budget priorities for the upcoming year, including a new Stag Hill anti-dumping initiative.

The 2019 Budget Proposal was approved following a motion by Wolf; seconded by Devaney. A roll call of members revealed five aye votes by Devaney; McKeon, Phiefer, Seibert and Wolf.

SITE PLAN REVIEWS

Prestige Mgmt Services/MSN Services, LLC, 73 Ramapo Valley Road, Block 41, Lot 1, Docket #1447-18

The Environmental Commission reviewed a Board of Adjustment Application Review Report for the accessory use of a 5,830-square-foot public auction business for sales of furnishings, equipment and personal property.

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

17 Franklin LLC, 1-21 Franklin Turnpike, Block 69, Lots 1, 2 & 3, Docket #509A

The Environmental Commission reviewed a Planning Board Application Review Report for an amended site plan.

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

SOIL MOVEMENT PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Toll NJ IV, LLC, 6 Roxbury Road, Block 127, Lot 27, E-BD-216-3108

The Environmental Commission reviewed a Soil Movement Permit Application for a new single-family dwelling on the property. There was no related Tree Preservation Application.

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

De Dios, 27 Eileen Drive, Block 144, Lot 14, E-BD-216-304-656

The Environmental Commission reviewed an updated Tree Preservation Application for the above property, which indicates nine trees will be removed and replaced. The original application submitted on September 26 indicated the replacements would be Blue Spruce Evergreens; however the Environmental Commission noted that at least three trees were required to be from the approved deciduous tree list. The updated application indicates the replacements will be Evergreens (6) and the remaining three will be Red Maple, Koosa Dogwood and Japanese Pagoda.

The updated Tree Preservation application review was approved following a motion made by Phiefer; seconded by Devaney. All were in favor.

John Mastrocola, 1-4 Murray Avenue, Block 159, Lot 51

The Environmental Commission reviewed a Soil Movement Permit Application for the construction of an addition with related improvements. The Tree Preservation Application indicates four trees will be removed, with one replacement.

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

TENANT APPLICATIONS

The following tenant applications were reviewed and approved:

Namastee India, LLC, 44 Franklin Turnpike, Block 68, Lot 8, TA18-0036

Change of ownership form for diner/restaurant

The Environmental Commission approved this application at its October 24 meeting but had a question regarding the hours of operation. According to this updated document, the tenants have taken the entire space and the hours of operation will be from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received and reviewed:

- Email from Mercury Stoneworks regarding Hiking Trail Construction Services – Storms will invite them to a future meeting or ask them to submit a proposal
- Copy of a Letter of Interpretation – Footprint of Disturbance Determination, Della Penna, Block 156, Lot 8
- Email Newsletters from the Hackensack Riverkeeper and NY/NJ Trail Conference
- Email from CDP Cities
- Various agendas, minutes and public notices

NEW BUSINESS

Motorized Scooters

Devaney said he recently visited his son's college, where they utilize motorized scooters around campus. Devaney said it is an interesting concept that might be worth exploring for our Bike-Walk Path proposal.

Recycling Center Update

Seibert said DPW has made some positive changes to the Recycling Center. Members discussed asking DPW for an update on the status of recycling in town.

Bike-Walk Path

McKeon asked if any work was needed to research a Bike-Walk Path. Members discussed.

Leaf Pickups

Wolf said DPW informed him that DPW will not be picking up leaves if there is any brush placed in curbside piles, and asked members to spread the word. The equipment cannot handle any brush.

Off-Road Vehicle Areas

Wolf said Councilman Hermanson asked the Commission to consider the benefits of designating an area for off-road vehicle use. Wolf said while he does not see this as an environmental issue, he wanted to bring it to our attention.

There being no further questions or discussion, the meeting of the Environmental Commission was adjourned at 9:57 p.m. following a motion by Seibert; seconded by Phiefer. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 12, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey.

J. Storms
Secretary