

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES

Meeting Date/Time:

Monday, Mar. 18, 2019 – 7:45pm

Meeting Location:

Executive Council Chambers - 2nd Floor, 12 Mercedes Drive, Montvale

Open Public Meeting Statement:

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided to the Bergen Record and/or The Ridgewood News, informing the public of the time and place according to the provision of the Open Public Meeting Law (Chapter 231, P.L. 1976)

Pledge of Allegiance: Chairman Hanrahan

Roll Call:

Daniel Eichhorn (P), Chairman Robert Hanrahan (P), Mairead Jensen (A), Richard Johnson (A), Melinda Kelly(A), Randall Preston (P), Lisa Skoglund (P), Planning Board Liaison Robert Zitelli (P), Council Liaison Dieter Koelling (P)

Approval of Minutes –February minutes - A motion to approve was made by L. Skoglund and seconded by R. Preston.

Meeting Opened to Public Agenda & Non – Agenda Items – A motion to open was made by L. Skoglund and seconded by R. Zitelli. Mr. Jay Perez, the Environmental Commissioner from Upper Saddle River, NJ attended the meeting. He spoke regarding projects that the USR Environmental Commission is working on. Mr. Perez expressed an interest in both Montvale and USR working together to facilitate environmental awareness within both communities.

Meeting Closed to Public - Motion to close by R. Preston and seconded by D. Eichhorn.

Communication/Correspondence: There is a 2nd Alternate position that is open on the Environmental Committee. Anyone who is interested should see Chairman Hanrahan.

New Business:

1 Roberts Rd:

- Tree permit was reviewed by the EC. A vote was taken to approve the application. There was unanimous approval from: Lisa Skoglund, Randall Preston, Daniel Eichhorn, Robert Hanrahan, and Robert Zitelli.

11 Highland Rd:

- Tree permit was reviewed by the EC. A vote was taken to approve the application. There was unanimous approval from: Lisa Skoglund, Randall Preston, Daniel Eichhorn, Robert Hanrahan, and Robert Zitelli.

Montvale Recreation Spring Fling Event

- The EC will man a table at the Spring Fling which we be held Saturday, May 4th from 10am-12pm at Fieldstone. The purpose is to promote what we do as the EC, and to educate the community at large. Chairman will have handouts and flyers focusing on EC accomplishments and future areas of interest.

Old Business:

Clean Up Day:

- Scheduled for April 13, 9am-12pm. EC members will meet by 8am, at Red Shed.
- Planning for light breakfast same as last year, Wegmans will provide 75 buttered bagels, (4), 2.5 gals of water, and 160 paper cups. Chairman will call Dunkin Donuts for coffee donation.
- Bergen County to provide T-Shirts, gloves, garbage bags and some giveaways to volunteers.
- Police will help direct traffic, as its also MAL opening day.
- Maps of detailed areas to be cleaned, will be given out to groups.

Plastic Bag Initiative:

- Carly de la Hoz, was spearheading this cause. We need someone to continue this investigation.
- Chairman Hanrahan did report however, that upon meeting with Wegmans, they would ask that we educate the public in regards to plastic bags and the harm they cause to our environment. This is still ongoing and an important topic at the state level as well.

Pascack Trail

- The Trail project was positively received by Mayor and Council.
- Money has been designated, but not yet received.
- Chairman located \$16k from EC grant earmarked for the Pascack Trail.
- Chairman asked for Councilman Koelling's help in drafting a resolution to be approved by Mayor and Council so that Boswell Engineering can move forward with site surveys.

Huff Pond

- The Huff Pond project was also well received by Mayor and Council.
- Investment needs to be made, as the pond is in a state of disrepair.
- Suggestion is made to research a product (MuckAway), which is an organic debris digester. This product may help with the algae overgrowth and maintain the water quality.
- DPW will remove garbage from the inlet and surrounding area.
- DEP will stock Huff with fish for Spring and Summer fishing.
- Work on the pond should commence in late Fall 2019.

EC Activity List

- Chairman Hanrahan reviewed the EC Activity list which is on file.

Council Liaison Koelling Report – Councilman Koelling reported that there was nothing pressing at this time. Councilman Koelling will mention to the Mayor and Council that there is a vacant position as 2nd Alternate on the EC. He will also relay information on upcoming Clean Up Day.

Planning Board Liaison Zitelli Report – Mr. Zitelli reported that the concept for Phase 1 of the Triboro project (old Mercedes property), was approved by the Planning board. Hornrock is still being discussed and is challenging due to involvement of three towns. Chairman asked Mr. Zitelli to verify that PB has received a letter drafted on Jan. 22, 2019 from the Chairman and EC which focused on environmental concerns in response to Hornrock site plan review.

Adjournment- At 9:50 pm a motion to adjourn was made by L. Skoglund and seconded by D. Eichhorn all in favor stating aye.