

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date/Time:

Monday, June 27, 2022 – 7:45pm

Meeting Location: Zoom and Borough Hall

Go to www.zoom.us click JOIN A MEETING and enter the meeting number shown below.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89737166369?pwd=aHFrbEY0aXBRa0FPajdiaVZHUnQ2dz09>

Meeting ID: 897 3716 6369

Passcode: 773192

Or by phone: US toll call: + 1 929 436 2866

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)

Roll Call:

Members: Lisa De Pellegrini(P), Chairman Robert Hanrahan(P), Mairead Jensen(A), Randall Preston(P), Lisa Skoglund(A), Vicki Solis(P), Antonio Vozzolo(P), Michelle Zink-Jojic(P), Planning Board Liaison/Member Robert Zitelli(P) & Council Liaison Christopher Roche(A)

Approval of Minutes – May 16, 2022 - A motion to approve was made by M. Zink-Jojic and seconded by R. Zitelli.

Meeting Opened to Public Agenda & Non – Agenda Items - A motion to open was made by M. Zink-Jojic and seconded by L. DePellegrini.

Meeting Closed to Public - A motion to close was made by M. Zink-Jojic and seconded by L. DePellegrini.

Communication/Correspondence: - No new communication/correspondence to report.

New Business:

- Tree Removal Permit Request – 30 Spring Valley Road, Block 202, Lot 12
 - Review of application has been postponed until we received the necessary information completed/submitted on the application.
- Tree City Signage
 - Mayor and Council has approved funding for additional signage in town.
 - R. Hanrahan presented the location options to the Mayor and Council and the idea was well received.
 - All in agreement that we should promote Montvale’s Tree City status.
 - Potential locations for signage: North and South on Kinderkamack Road, East and West on Grand Avenue, the Red Shed and North and South on Chestnut Ridge Road.

- R. Hanrahan requested recommendations on other signage options from the EC members.
- R. Hanrahan requests the EC to form a subcommittee and work together to finalize the details on implementing the signage.
 - R. Preston volunteers to participate.
 - Details to include locations, research on costs and additions/verbiage to the signs.
 - R. Zitelli has some detailed information on required heights and locations.
 - Please let, Bob, Ellen or Randy know if you would like to assist.
- Communication about Tree Ordinance to New Families
 - R. Hanrahan is modifying the trifold pamphlet on trees to highlight the tree ordinance.
 - R. Hanrahan is writing an article on wetlands and category 1 waterways.
 - Suggestion to include a cover letter from the EC or from Mayor and Council.
 - Suggestion to include information on recycling.

Old Business:

- Community Project Update (Lisa De Pellegrini)
 - Update on Bat Education Project (Lisa De Pellegrini)
 - L. DePellegrini has disassembled 6 palates for use on the bat house project.
- Pascack Trail/Huff Pond Update (Robert Hanrahan)
 - R. Hanrahan is communicating with the DEP about options to stabilize the soil around the work that was down at Huff Pond.
 - R. Hanrahan reached out to Congressman Gottheimer who is working on the Park Ridge waterway. Would like to request his assistance in escalating the DEP work.
- Montvale Plastic Bag Recycling Update (Randy Preston/Mairedad Jensen)
 - Volume of plastic bags being deposited is decreasing.
 - R. Preston and M. Jensen will meet on Wednesday to evaluate our progress.
 - We just started another six week challenge with Trex.
 - By the conclusion of March we have collected 4986 pounds or approximately 411,000 plastic bags.
- Electric Vehicle Update (Lisa Skoglund/Antonio Vozzolo)
 - A. Vozzolo requests an inventory of borough owned vehicles to facilitate research.
- Community Garden Update (Robert Hanrahan)
 - No new information to report.
- Open Spaces and Recreation Plan (Mairedad Jensen/Robert Hanrahan)
 - Barbara Davis reached out to R. Hanrahan for dates to meet with the Mayor and Council, Planning Board and the Environmental Commission.
- Bicycle and Walking Plan (Antonio Vozzolo)
 - Only one person working as a liaison at DOT to communicate with towns and requests.
 - A. Vozzolo has attempted contact with the DOT several times but does not expect to hear back until mid-July.

Council Liaison Report – Chris Roche

- N/A – Not present at meeting.

Planning Board Report – Bob Zitelli

- The planning board is currently in a quiet state of activity.

- Application submitted by Grey Capital for the former western Union Building.
- The past several meetings has focused predominantly on use permits.
- When a business moves to Montvale they are supposed to come before the planning board.
- Some businesses have presented before the planning board later than required.

Adjournment - A motion to adjourn was made by M. Zink-Jojic and seconded by L. DePellegrini all in favor stating aye.

Next EC Meeting will be on Monday, July 18, 2022