

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2022**

The remote meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Richard Wolf, Chair. The Opening Statement was made. Roll call was taken.

Present: Richard Wolf, Chair
 Richard Seibert, Co-Chair
 Janet Ariemma, Council Liaison
 Megan Charles (*joined at 7:07 p.m.*)
 Sally Coda
 Victoria Galow, Alternate I
 Gary Montroy, Alternate II
 Jennifer Storms, Secretary

Absent: Mike Devaney
 Jack Pfister

The minutes of the meeting held on February 9, 2022 were approved with a minor change on page two following a motion by Seibert; seconded by Galow. Wolf, Seibert, Ariemma, Galow and Montroy voted in favor. Coda abstained.

PUBLIC SESSION

Montroy made a motion to open the meeting to the public; seconded by Seibert. All in favor.

Wolf opened the meeting to the public and welcomed Wyckoff resident Lauren Markarian.

Trex Recycling Initiative - Presentation

Markarian, a former Junior Environmental Commissioner in Wyckoff, discussed a plastic film collection initiative she coordinated in Wyckoff. The initiative, which was sponsored by Trex, was very successful. Members discussed how to implement such an initiative in Mahwah. Markarian will forward additional information to the group. Members thanked Markarian for her presentation.

CLOSED SESSION

There being no further comments from the public, Montroy made a motion to close the meeting to the public; seconded by Charles. All in favor.

Social Media Strategy

Wolf said he would like to give Mahwah High School student Colin Crissey some direction on our social media strategy. He suggested we focus on developing content to raise awareness on environmental issues. Members discussed upcoming topics. The Commission will make an effort to post content every two weeks.

OLD BUSINESS**Tree Seedling Initiative and Spring Tree Plantings**

Wolf said he has requested the free seedlings for our Earth Day initiative. We also plan to purchase additional flowering trees. Wolf will send the information to Storms to process.

Ariemma also asked if our tree planting schedule is in order for the Spring. Wolf said he has coordinated everything with the DPW.

Contaminated Sites Discussion

Coda asked to add to a future agenda a discussion about potentially contaminated sites in town. She recommended we consider identifying all of the sites in town that we believe could be contaminated. Wolf said we can add it to our March 23 agenda.

SITE PLAN REVIEWS

The following applications were reviewed:

Volvo Car USA, LLC, 1800 Volvo Place, Block 135, Lot 60, Docket #623

The Environmental Commission reviewed a Planning Board Application Review Report for a preliminary and final site plan and soil movement permit application on the property.

Montroy recused himself from the application review due to his position as Acting Administrative Officer of the Planning & Zoning Department.

The application was accepted following a motion by Seibert; seconded by Charles. Montroy, Galow and Charles abstained. All other members voted in favor.

Pony Power Therapies, 1159 Ramapo Valley Road, Block 25, Lot 17, Docket #1503-21

The Environmental Commission reviewed a BOA Application Review Report for an appeal of Zoning Officer's decision regarding a change of use for the barn loft.

Montroy recused himself from the application review due to his position as Acting Administrative Officer of the Planning & Zoning Department.

The application was accepted following a motion by Seibert; seconded by Coda. Montroy abstained. All other members voted in favor.

Lawrence Levin, 91 Highwood Road, Block 108, Lot 1, Docket #1509-22

The Environmental Commission reviewed a BOA Application Review Report for a one-story addition for a new two-car garage and replacement of existing fence with a 6-foot fence.

Montroy recused himself from the application review due to his position as Acting Administrative Officer of the Planning & Zoning Department.

The application was accepted following a motion by Charles; seconded by Seibert. Montroy abstained. All other members voted in favor.

SOIL MOVEMENT PERMIT APPLICATIONS**Nancy & Stuart Miller, 38 Wagon Trail, Block 105, Lot 87.09, E-BD-216-304-723**

The Environmental Commission reviewed a Soil Movement Permit Application for the installation of an inground swimming pool on the property.

The application was accepted following a motion by Montroy; seconded by Seibert. All other members voted in favor.

TENANT APPLICATIONS

The following tenant applications were reviewed and approved:

K.B. Cleaning Services, NJ, Inc., 575 Corporate Drive, Block 137, Lot 11, TA22-0004
Cleaning company

The acceptance of this application was deferred pending clarification on what the company plans to store in such a large space. Storms will request additional information.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received and reviewed:

- Various minutes, public notices and agendas
- Correspondence from ANJEC regarding upcoming grant opportunities – Wolf asked to discuss this at an upcoming meeting

NEW BUSINESS

Spring Newsletter Articles

Wolf asked if members had any suggestions for article ideas. The issue will be out in May. Members discussed potential topics including the Trex Recycling Initiative, a future water or recycling forum, and a river cleanup.

Upcoming Priorities

Members also discussed focusing on the bike path this year.

There being no further questions or discussion, the meeting of the Environmental Commission was adjourned at 9:05 p.m. following a motion by Seibert; seconded by Montroy. All in favor. Our next meeting will be held via remote video conference, and is scheduled for Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 7 p.m.

J. Storms
Secretary