

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2021**

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  
                      Janet Ariemma, Council Liaison  
                      Frank Pallotta, Planning Board Liaison  
                      Carol Phiefer  
                      Jack Pfister  
                      Richard Seibert, Co-Chair  
                      Jennifer Storms, Secretary

The minutes of the meeting held on February 10, 2021 were approved following a motion by Seibert; seconded by Pfister. Pallotta abstained. All other present members were in favor.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Sustainable Jersey Certification Updates

Wolf asked if anyone has an interest in taking on additional projects to support our Sustainable Jersey efforts. He urged members to look at the list of action items on the Sustainable Jersey site. Phiefer will be coordinating a spring cleanup of the raingarden at Winter's Park.

DPW Site

Pallotta is working with township officials regarding the constituent concerns on the new DPW site on Micik Lane. He has also been in contact with the residents to keep them apprised of his efforts. Wolf said he received Seibert's concerns as well.

Public Session

Martha Steinbach, 8 Wanamaker Avenue, joined the meeting at 7:20 p.m. as a member of the public. Steinbach said she still has significant concerns about the retention pond in the plan. She also said she would like someone to push for the brook to be rerouted. She objects to the way the plan is being pushed through by the Planning Board. She said it is an obsolete plan to begin with. Residents are concerned about the water tables, the dead growth coming off of the site, and the runoff coming off of the property.

Pallotta suggested we have Mike Kelly join the commission at a future meeting to go over some of the concerns. He will mention it Mr. Kelly tomorrow.

Council President David May, 93 Oweno Road, joined the call at 7:38 p.m. He said all of the current issues at the site are going to be addressed, and that the runoff is going to be reduced with the new plan.

Wolf said we have some follow up to do with the issues.

Spring Newsletter Articles

Wolf asked if anyone has article ideas for the spring issue of Mahwah Matters.

Commission Vacancy

Wolf is submitting the names of the two interested individuals to the mayor: Mike Devaney and Megan Charles.

**SITE PLAN REVIEWS**

Guido Realty, LLC, 295 & 305 State Highway Route 17 North, Block 63, Lots 10.01 & 10.02

The Environmental Commission received a Planning Board Application Review Report for a preliminary and final site plan.

*Comments to Administrator Officer:*

Please have the applicant submit a tree removal plan for the property. Please also provide a soil movement permit application. Furthermore, will this plan affect any neighboring wetlands?

This application review was deferred subject to the applicant providing more information.

Bolla Operating NJ Corp, 131 Highway Route 17, Block 26, Lot 5, Docket #618

The Environmental Commission reviewed a Planning Board Application Review Report Application for signage changes on the property.

This application review was accepted following a motion made by Seibert; seconded by Pallotta. All other members were in favor.

**SOIL MOVEMENT PERMIT APPLICATIONS**

Vikram Lanka, 6 Roxbury Road, Block 127, Lot 27, E-BD-216-3333

The Environmental Commission reviewed a Soil Movement Permit Application for a deck extension, patio and walkway to patio on the property.

This application review was accepted following a motion made by Pallotta; seconded by Pfister. All other members were in favor.

**TENANT APPLICATIONS**

The following tenant application was reviewed and approved:

OEM Accessories, Inc., 31 Industrial Avenue, Block 102, Lot 32, TA21-0004

*Online sales of cell phone accessories*

Seibert made a motion to reopen the meeting to the public; Pallotta seconded.

Pallotta made a motion to close Pallotta; seconded by Pfister. All approved.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence was received and reviewed:

- Freshwater Wetlands Letter of Interpretation for Express Scripts, Block 170, Lots 10 & 11 and Block 180, Lots 1 & 2
- Letter from Applied Earth Solutions regarding potable water testing at 152 Island Road, Mahwah U-Save
- Letter from the NJDEP providing notice that the FY2021 Annual Fee Report and Assessment of Fees for the NJ Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit program is now available online
- Email from CDP Cities regarding the 2020 North America A List Celebration webpage
- Email from ANJEC regarding upcoming events
- Various copies of letters, agendas and minutes
- Emails regarding recent and upcoming events

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **CFMP Update**

Our CFMP grant application was submitted. Storms will follow up on processing the payment.

#### **Commission Reorganization**

Seibert made a motion to appoint Wolf as Chair for the year; seconded by Pfister. Ariemma made a motion to appoint Seibert as Vice Chair; seconded by Phiefer. All members were in favor.

#### **Ramsey Shade Tree Call**

We received a call from the Ramsey Shade Tree Commission that Home Depot was selling an invasive species of tree known as California Privet. Members were in agreement to leave the ordinance as-is because there doesn't appear to be major issues with this non-native species.

There being no further questions or discussion, the remote meeting of the Environmental Commission was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. following a motion by Pfister; seconded by Pallotta. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 7 p.m.

J. Storms  
Secretary