

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 2022**

The remote meeting of the Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:02 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
 Sally Coda
 Mike Devaney
 Jack Pfister
 Jennifer Storms, Secretary

Absent: Victoria Galow, Alternate I
 Gary Montroy, Alternate II

The minutes of the meeting held on February 23, 2022 were approved following a motion by Seibert; seconded by Coda. Wolf, Seibert, Ariemma, Charles and Coda voted in favor. Pfister and Devaney abstained.

PUBLIC SESSION

Charles 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 Mahwah High School student Colin Crissey.

Social Media Updates

Members discussed upcoming social media posts and posting on the Mahwah News cable station.

Ariemma said the town failed its latest water test and a notice will be going out to residents soon. Members discussed a post about the topic. We will plan to post something in the next week or so, and then once a week thereafter.

CLOSED SESSION

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

OLD BUSINESS

Sustainable Jersey Update

Wolf said we need to schedule a Climate Action Checklist meeting for our Sustainable Jersey certification. He is working on the meeting logistics with Pfister.

SITE PLAN REVIEWS

The following applications were reviewed:

Jeffrey Buchak, 73 Masonicus Road, Block 123, Lot 7, Docket #1508-22

The Environmental Commission reviewed a Board of Adjustment Application Review Report for a 25'x 40' garage in the rear of the property.

Members expressed their concerns about the wetlands infill and amount of gravel. There also was no tree removal replacement plan submitted.

Comments to the Township Administrative Officer:

This application review was rejected following a motion by Pfister; seconded by Coda. All other members voted in favor.

SOIL MOVEMENT PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Geiger Road Construction LLC, 128 Stag Hill Road, Block 9, Lot 2, Docket #1499-21(S)

The Environmental Commission reviewed a Soil Movement Permit Application for the construction of a single-family dwelling on the property.

Comments to the Township Administrative Officer:

The Environmental Commission is requesting more time to review the formal site plan.

This application review was deferred pending submission of a following a motion by Seibert; seconded by Devaney. All other members voted in favor of deferral.

Martynas Cernauskas, 191 Island Road, Block 61, Lot 55, E-BD-216-3451

The Environmental Commission reviewed a Soil Movement Permit Application for the construction of a single-family dwelling on a vacant lot.

Comments to Administrative Officer:

The applicant must replace at least five trees if removing 11 from the property. The location of the driveway is also a safety concern.

This application review was rejected pending submission of a tree replacement plan following a motion by Pfister; seconded by Seibert. All other members voted in favor.

81 Trommel Drive LLC, 81 Trommel Drive, Block 122, Lot 37, E-BD-216-3322A

The Environmental Commission reviewed a Soil Movement Permit Application for a single-story garage addition and driveway expansion, removal of existing shed and deck, construction of new shed, new covered rear deck and covered front porch.

Comments to Administrative Officer:

Members expressed concern that the applicant should have requested approval before completing this work.

This application review was initially accepted following a motion by Coda; seconded by Seibert. Pfister opposed. All other members voted in favor.

However, after further discussion, members rescinded the vote and recommended to defer the review until we receive clarification as to why the amendment to the single-family home occurred after the work was completed.

This application review was deferred pending further information following a motion by Wolf; seconded by Seibert. All members were in favor.

TENANT APPLICATIONS

The following tenant applications were reviewed and approved:

KDLK Holdings – DBA Prime No. 7, 115 Franklin Turnpike, Block 70, Lot 44, TA22-0005

Korean restaurant

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

Cleaning company

The Environmental Commission deferred acceptance of this application at its last meeting, pending clarification on what the company plans to store in such a large space. Storms confirmed the square footage of the warehouse, as well as what the company stores on site. Members approved.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received and reviewed:

- Various minutes, public notices and agendas
- Email correspondence from ANJEC regarding upcoming virtual training sessions
- Email correspondence from ANJEC regarding the single-use plastic bag ban

NEW BUSINESS

ANJEC Membership Dues

Devaney made a motion to accept the payment of our 2022 Annual ANJEC dues in the amount of \$425; seconded by Seibert. All other present members voted in favor.

Carole Phiefer Recognition

Members discussed recognizing Carole Phiefer for her 40-plus years of service to the Township of Mahwah. Options include planting a tree in her honor with a plaque, possibly a Salem Oak. Wolf will submit the application for a Salem Oak.

Next Meeting

Wolf said we will discuss remediated sites at our next meeting.

There being no further questions or discussion, the meeting of the Environmental Commission was adjourned at 8:52 p.m. following a motion by Seibert; seconded by Charles. All in favor. The next meeting will be held via remote video conference and in the Municipal Building, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey, and is scheduled for Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 7 p.m.

J. Storms
Secretary