

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2023**

The meeting of the Environmental Commission, held via remote video conference and in-person at the Municipal Building, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey, was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Richard Wolf, Chair. The Opening Statement was made. Roll call was taken.

Present: Janet Ariemma
Sally Coda (remote)
Victoria Galow (remote)
Jack Pfister
Richard Seibert
Richard Wolf

Jennifer Storms, Secretary

Absent: Mike Devaney
Megan Charles, Alternate I
Gary Montroy, Alternate II
Ward Donigian, Council Liaison

The minutes of the meeting held on March 8, 2023 were approved following a motion by Seibert; seconded by Ariemma. All other members voted in favor.

PUBLIC SESSION

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

Several residents were in attendance and on zoom to discuss their concerns about deer, particularly over-breeding, tick-borne viruses, traffic safety issues and other health concerns.

Wolf thanked the residents for their input. He said he hopes the Wildlife Forum in the spring will give residents some helpful tips and options.

Pfister made a motion to close the meeting to the public; seconded by Seibert. All in favor.

Ridge Road Affordable Housing

Coda said she heard there may not be as many affordable units on Ridge Road.

Sustainable Jersey Updates

LaGreca said our resolution was submitted to Sustainable Jersey.

Sustainable Jersey Grant

We have applied for a \$2,000 grant to assist us with the rain garden at Winter's Pond.

NEW BUSINESS

Wanamaker Ditch Restoration Project

Wolf said we submitted a letter of support for a federal grant to support the project.

SITE PLAN REVIEWS

None received

SOIL MOVEMENT PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Mark & Jennifer Bristow, 58 Armour Road, Block 96, Lot 6.01, E-BD-216-304-734

Soil Movement Permit Application for an inground swimming pool

Comments to Zoning Officer and Township Engineer:

Please confirm that any runoff from the steep slopes have been satisfactorily addressed by the architect.

Seibert made a motion to accept the application with the above comments; seconded by Pfister. All other present members voted in favor.

Sara Akhnoukh, 189 East Crescent Avenue, Block 127, Lot 14, E-BD-216-3536

Soil Movement Permit Application for a proposed addition, driveway and rear patio

Seibert made a motion to accept the application with the above comments; seconded by Wolf. All other present members voted in favor.

Bill Pigott, 60 Trommell Drive, Block 125, Lot 3, E-BD-216-3537

Soil Movement Permit Application for the construction of retaining wall

Seibert made a motion to accept the application with the above comments; seconded by Pfister. All other present members voted in favor.

TENANT APPLICATIONS

Coli Construction, 1 Lethbridge Plaza, Block 63, Lot 6, Suite #23, TA #23-0005

Change of ownership

Stout Management Group, Verizon Retailer, 119 Franklin Turnpike, #21, Block 70, Lot 44, TA #23-0006

Wireless Retail

Tree Preservation/Removal Requests

None received

Wolf would like to formally respond to the homeowner that we agree with the arborist's recommendations.

Correspondence

None received

OLD BUSINESS

Beautification Committee Cleanup

The March 25 cleanup has been cancelled due to the weather and will be rescheduled at a later date.

Engineering Report Reviews

The following Engineering Reports were reviewed by the Commission:

Docket #417-S4 – 46 Peterson Place

E-BD-216-3535 – 124 Lawrence Road

Deer Presentation

Resident John Fesen said the library is hosting a deer presentation on April 3 at the library. Members discussed.

Wildlife Forum Discussion

Members discussed topics to address wildlife management in town.

There being no further questions or discussion, the meeting of the Environmental Commission was adjourned at 8:51 p.m. following a motion by Galow; seconded by Wolf. All in favor. The next meeting will be held via remote video conference and in-person at the Municipal Building, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey, and is scheduled for Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 7 p.m.

J. Storms
Secretary