

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2022**

The meeting of the Environmental Commission, held at the Municipal Building, 475 Corporate Drive, Mahwah, New Jersey and via remote video conference, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Richard Wolf, Chair. The Opening Statement was made. Roll call was taken.

Present: Richard Wolf, Chair
 Janet Ariemma, Council Liaison
 Megan Charles (*joined call at 7:06 p.m.*)
 Sally Coda
 Mike Devaney (*joined call at 7:06 p.m.*)
 Jack Pfister (*remote*)
 Victoria Galow, Alternate I
 Jennifer Storms, Secretary

Absent: Richard Seibert, Co-Chair
 Gary Montroy, Alternate II

The minutes of the meeting held on April 13, 2022 were approved following a motion by Coda; seconded by Pfister. Wolf, Ariemma, Coda and Galow voted in favor.

PUBLIC SESSION

Galow made a motion to open the meeting to the public; seconded by Coda. All in favor.

OPEN SESSION

Rob Cottignies, a resident of Saddle Brook, worked recently with the Oakland Green Team and wanted to listen to our meeting to learn about what we do. He would like to try to get more involved in his town.

CLOSED SESSION

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

NEW BUSINESS

NJ Watershed Ambassador – Lake Henry Cleanup

The Commission received an email from the current NJ Watershed Ambassador, who is interested in conducting a cleanup at Lake Henry. Wolf said we may want to coordinate any efforts with Karin LaGreca. Members discussed doing an annual cleanup or budgeting for a cleanup in the future. Wolf will follow up with the Watershed Ambassador for more information.

Soil Movement/Tree Preservation Applications

The Planning & Zoning Department is in the process of updating the town's Soil Movement Permit Application and asked for our feedback. Storms will send the document to members for feedback.

Fyke Road Discussion

Galow said at the Planning Board meeting this week, the Board asked that the Environmental Commission request an Environmental Impact Study. The Commission would have 15 days to submit a request upon receiving a new application.

Wolf made a motion to send a formal request to the Planning and Zoning Department for an Environmental Impact Study on the site; seconded by Charles. All other present voted in favor. Storms will advise the Planning and Zoning Department of the Environmental Commission's request.

Coda made a motion to request a site visit to the property; seconded by Devaney. All in favor. Storms will submit the request.

Tree Removal/Styrofoam Collection/Paper Shredding Event

Wolf thanked everyone for helping out at the event last Saturday. All of the tree seedlings we received were distributed to about 100 residents. We had a lot of help from a group of high school students.

OLD BUSINESS

Sustainable Jersey Certification Updates

Wolf said we need to get any photos and final updates to Karin LaGreca for our Sustainable Jersey certification.

Tree Plantings Near Commodore Perry

Wolf said DPW is moving forward with the planting of 40 trees along East Ramapo Road near Commodore Perry. Wolf suggested a mixture of varieties be planted at each location.

Social Media Updates

Members discussed upcoming social media topics.

Trex Plastic Film Initiative

Wolf submitted our initial application to start the Trex Plastic Initiative. Members discussed possible collection sites.

SITE PLAN REVIEWS

None received

SOIL MOVEMENT PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Santosh Dubey & Amiv Bala, 560 Wyckoff Avenue, Block 153, Lot 1.05, E-BD-216-3456
The Environmental Commission reviewed a Soil Movement Permit Application for a single-family home on the property. The application indicates 42 trees will be removed, with no replacements.

Pfister made a motion to reject the application; seconded by Charles. All members voted in favor of the rejection.

Comments to Administrative Officer:

Please have the applicant submit a tree replacement plan and justification as to why so many trees are being removed.

TENANT APPLICATIONS

The following tenant applications were reviewed and approved:

Vazzano Taste of Italy, 180 Franklin Turnpike, Block 10, Lot 71, TA22-0008
Café and Bakery

Coffice, LLC, 190 Franklin Turnpike, Block 7, Lots 18 & 19, TA22-0011
E-commerce retail office

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received and reviewed:

- Letter from Weston regarding Block 21, Lot 11 – notification that they have filed for a permit. Storms will ask Planning & Zoning Department.
- Various minutes, public notices and agendas
- Email correspondence from ANJEC regarding upcoming events and training sessions

OLD BUSINESS

Nothing to report

There being no further questions or discussion, the meeting of the Environmental Commission was adjourned at 8:44 p.m. following a motion by Galow; seconded by Charles. 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, May 11, 2022 at 7 p.m.

J. Storms
Secretary