

**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 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 7:00 p.m. by Rich Wolf, Chair. The Opening Statement was made. Roll call was taken.

Present: Janet Ariemma (*remote; 7:04 p.m.*)
Sally Coda
Mike Devaney
Victoria Galow
Jack Pfister
Richard Wolf
Megan Charles, Alternate I
Gary Montroy, Alternate II (*remote*)

Jennifer Storms, Secretary
Karin LaGreca, Sustainable Jersey Consultant

Absent: Richard Seibert
Ward Donigian, Council Liaison

Pfister noted a correction on the second page of the draft minutes presented for approval. With that change, the minutes of the meeting held on October 11, 2023 were approved following a motion by Galow; seconded by Wolf. All other present members voted in favor.

Public Session

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

Sustainable Jersey/Ramapo College Partnership

Professor Ricky Abzug and Vincent Vicari, Regional Director of the New Jersey Small Business Development Center/Bergen County, were both present to discuss a partnership with Ramapo College on our Sustainable Jersey/Green Team efforts. Members discussed.

Closed Session

Charles made a motion to close the meeting to the public; seconded by Devaney. All in favor.

Tree Removals

Coda said she was notified of some tree cutting being done on a property in the Fardale section of town. Property Maintenance was called out to visit the site. Storms will follow up.

Deer Update

Ariemma said she recently learned that deer hunting is permitted in Mahwah. She wanted to let everyone know this is occurring in our town. Members discussed.

SITE PLAN REVIEWS

Walgreens Eastern Co., Inc., 1000 Macarthur Boulevard, Block 135.01, Lot 65, Docket #620A

Amended site plan with variance for 8-foot security fence

Comments to Zoning Officer and Township Engineer:

This review is being deferred subject to the receipt of a revised landscaping plan (only street view was included). Since an 8-foot fence is not in compliance with municipal ordinance, we recommend landscaping around fencing to improve aesthetics.

The review was deferred pending the above information following a motion by Pfister; seconded by Devaney. Ariemma abstained.

Michael Dourado, 119 Stag Hill Road, Block 7, Lot 2.01, E-BD-216-3604

Planning Board Review for soil movement of greater than 1,000 cubic yards

Comments to Zoning Officer and Township Engineer:

Please have the applicant complete the standard tree removal form with the list of improved replacement trees. Please also provide an explanation of the steep slope variance – can the soil that is being removed be reused on site to reduce runoff by maintaining steep slope requirements?

The review was rejected pending further information, following a motion by Devaney; seconded by Pfister. All other members voted in favor of the rejection.

SOIL MOVEMENT PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Eric Davenport, 38 Split Rock Road, Block 6, Lot 12, E-BD-216-3581

Soil Movement Permit Application for a single-family home

Comments to Zoning Officer and Township Engineer:

The Engineering Report note that a waiver is needed for the 8-foot retaining wall. Please reconcile report to the retaining walls proposed in plans to understand the impact on an already steep slope property.

The review was deferred pending clarification on those comments following a motion by Wolf; seconded by Devaney. All other members voted in favor of the deferral.

TENANT APPLICATIONS

The following tenant applications were reviewed and accepted:

Tristate Civil Construction, 45 Whitney Road, Block 173, Lot 147, TA23-0046

Construction, Groundwater, Filtration

Rivian LLC, 16 McKee Drive, Block 65, Lot 1, TA23-0042

Motor vehicle service center including post sale vehicle customer pickups

Correspondence

- Various correspondence, email newsletters, minutes and agendas
- Email newsletters

OLD BUSINESS

Mahwah Day

Members briefly discussed Mahwah Day, which was rescheduled to October 28, 2023. The Commission would like to recognize Glenda Haas for her artwork on our Mahwah Day booth materials.

There being no further questions or discussion, the meeting of the Environmental Commission was adjourned at 8:53 p.m. following a motion by Charles; seconded by Galow. 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, November 8, 2023 at 7 p.m.

J. Storms
Secretary