

Montvale EC Meeting Minutes

08/20/2018

Roll Call: Carly De La Hoz (P), Daniel Eichhorn (P), Chairman Robert Hanrahan (P), Mairead Jensen (P), Richard Johnson (A), Melinda Kelly (A), Randall Preston (P), Lisa Skoglund (A), Planning Board Liaison Annemarie Russo (A), Council Liaison Dieter Koelling (A)

Pledge of Allegiance: Chairman R. Hanrahan

Approval of Minutes: R. Preston motioned, M. Jensen seconded

Motion to open to public: D. Eichhorn motioned, R. Preston seconded

Motion to close to public: M. Jensen motioned, D. Eichhorn seconded

Correspondence

- #1) Question from resident to Mayor Ghassali: tree debris, tree is owned by Montvale, but is the homeowner's responsibility
 - Trees located on front of property are to maintained by the property owner, confirmed by Mr. Jeff Fette
- #2) Beech tree in front of senior housing on Grand Ave: has anyone been out to see if the tree can be saved?
 - Arborist response: it does have to be removed

EC Activities List

- Environmental Learning Center: TBD
 - Still needs ongoing maintenance, R. Hanrahan to take a walk over there to see what needs to be done
 - Potential to put a trailhead between Wegman's staircase and the ELC
 - Can put a marker on both sides, pointing from the Wegman's staircase to the ELC: pressure-treated 4x4 with a birdhouse structure over it, and plastic, would be a good project for boy/Girl Scouts
- Transportation: C. De La Hoz and M. Jensen
 - Europe has very effective public transportation: bike lane, cab and bus lane, third lane for all other traffic. People tend to ride bikes or take mass transit
 - We do have responsibility in the EC to investigate what can be done within the town to reduce emissions
 - We could put a bike lane on Grand Ave, i.e. by Woodland
 - Montvale does have ownership of a good portion of that property, could expand the curb
 - Park Ridge put in three charging stations: two are free, one has a cost (funding?)
 - In Montvale, it could make sense to partner with a corporate neighbor, and maybe even put the EV stations on their property
- Tree Ordinance: D. Eichhorn and R. Hanrahan
 - Tree is permit required in only two events: construction or subdivision

- Subdivision goes directly to Planning and Zoning Board
 - EC has 10 days to review permit application and drawing, if the application is received within 10 days of an EC meeting
 - Building Department only gets 21 from when they get a request for a permit to when they need to provide the permit
 - Two ordinances require two different timetables
- Blurb for the Mayor's newsletter, website: Tree Ordinance Summary
 - What the Montvale Tree Ordinance Is
 - "Does" and "Does Not"
 - The Montvale Tree Permit Process
- Proposed Trail: R. Hanrahan
 - Progressing nicely
- Open Space in Montvale:
 - What parcels of land can be acquired as part of "open space"?
 - For instance, property next to the Octagon House has been acquired - could be knocked down and converted to open space
 - The town is looking for our input
- Center of Town: R. Preston, D. Koelling
- Deer Population: Ideas are welcome
- ERI, Wetland Ordinance: L. Skoglund and R. Johnson

New Business

Mayor's Advisory Committee Survey

Gazebo to be potentially located at the Swim Club property

- Investigation endorsed by the Mayor to the EC
- See Westwood's gazebo as precedent: concerts, etc.
- Hillsdale's appears too small to be usable
- Minimize vandalism with cameras

Plastic Bag Ordinance:

- Draft up a response tailored to Montvale, using ANJEC's proposed resolution as guidance
- EC to draft something up and bring to Mayor and Council
- EC to reach out to Wegmans and others to discuss and understand the position of the community