

**Montvale Environmental Commission Meeting
12 Mercedes Drive, Montvale, New Jersey
Council Chambers at 7:45 pm**

November 21, 2016

Interim Chairman Hanrahan called the meeting of the Environmental Commission to order at 7:45 pm. adequate notice of this meeting was provided to The Record and/or the Ridgewood News, informing the Public of the time and place, according to the provisions of the Open Public Meeting Law (Chapter 231, P.L.1975).

The roll call attendance: D. Eichhorn (P), Interim Chairman R. Hanrahan (P), R. Johnson (P), R. Preston (P), L. Skoglund (P), J. Russo (Secretary, P), Judy Russo (P), D. Teagno (P)

Non-Member: Councilman Weaver (A), Gus De Blasio, Maser Landscape Architect (P)

Please note that due to technical problems, tonight's meeting is unable to be recorded.

Pledge of Allegiance - Interim Chairman Hanrahan

Approval of the Minutes from the October Meeting

A motion to approve the minutes from the October 17th meeting was made by R. Hanrahan and seconded by R. Preston. The minutes were approved & will be posted on the website.

Correspondence -none

Environmental Commission Activity List - This item was tabled until the next meeting.

Applicant

Sharp Electronics- 100 Paragon Drive

The applicant was represented by their attorney, Mr. Steinhagen and Landscape Architect, Mr. Demerich. Mr. De Blasio prepared a report of the landscape modifications that are necessary. The members asked questions regarding the parking lot screening, visibility of the sign at the intersection of Grand Avenue & Paragon Drive, and the screening of the dumpster. It was determined that an on-site inspection is necessary. The EC members, Mr. Demerich and Mr. Steinhagen agreed to meet on site on November 29, at 9:30am. The secretary will email the above mentioned individuals a reminder. Mr. Steinhagen asked if he can be granted an approval, so as not to delay Sharp receiving their final CCO. The Chairman explained that a recommendation to approve the landscaping will not be granted tonight. Mr. DeBlasio said the applicant will have his approval in a timely manner. The commission will table their recommendation to the Planning Board until after the inspection.

Inspection

The Fresh Market Company/Chestnut Ridge Shopping Center- 32 Chestnut Ridge Road

The applicant is requesting their bond to be released. Mr. DeBlasio and Mr. Marth, a representative from The Fresh Market Company had conducted an on- site inspection on November 17. Mr. DeBlasio provided instructions regarding replacements of the landscape, which was emailed to the commission, Planning Board secretary & Mr. Marth. Once all plantings are complete and they are in compliance, a final inspection will be conducted by Mr. De Blasio and if the landscaping is acceptable, a letter will be generated to the treasurer to release the bond.

Meeting Opened to the Public

A motion to open the meeting to the Public was made by L. Skoglund and seconded by R. Hanrahan. There were two residents from the public that were interested in learning more about the EC and are considering future membership.

Old Business

The definitions of clear cutting that were compiled by the members were read by each member. It was unanimously agreed upon that the term 'excessive tree removal' is more palatable than clear cutting. Requiring trees not to be disturbed if there are located in the buffer zone between property lines was suggested by R. Preston. D. Teagno said he supports the idea of trees being removed from a designated area near the home's footprint. R. Hanrahan said that providing an informational page regarding the values of trees should be provided when applying for building permits, if there will be removal of trees. Chairman R. Hanrahan will summarize the members' comments and will forward a one-page document to the secretary for distribution to Mayor Ghassali, the commission and the PB secretary.

Meeting Closed to the Public

A motion to close the meeting to the Public was made by L. Skoglund and seconded by R. Preston.

Planning Board Liaison Report

D. Teagno reported that several use permits were issued. Tree ordinance in regards to defining clear cutting remains unresolved. Different criteria continued to be discussed.

New Business-

G. De Blasio prepared landscape revitalization for Borough Municipal Complex; 12 Mercedes Drive & traffic islands on Kinderkamack Road, highlighting the areas that need repair regarding potential hazardous areas or requiring updating. The Borough Administrator, M. Iarossi- Alwan would like the commission to review the plans and submit their comments via email. R. Hanrahan suggested any light work which can be performed by volunteers, such as scouts are utilized. Also, the commission would like the DPW employees to perform all tasks if permitted per their contractual agreement with the borough. Commission would like to have an annual budget designated for maintenance.

R. Hanrahan asked for a motion to approve 2017 meeting dates. L. Skoglund made a motion, R. Preston seconded it. All in favor. Meeting dates; January 16, February 13 (second Monday), March 20, April 17, May 15, June 19, July 17, August 21, September 18, October 16 & November 20.

Mayor Ghassali scheduled a meeting of all the department heads next week to discuss their ideas for improvements within all their departments. Chairman Hanrahan and Janet Russo will be attending, and will discuss the results at the next meeting.

Adjournment

Interim Chairman Hanrahan asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by R. Preston and seconded by L. Skoglund. The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 pm.

There is no meeting in December; the next meeting is January 16th. Members will be emailed in the event the meeting is cancelled. The agenda will be posted on the borough's website; www.montvale.org. Members are reminded to notify Janet Russo if they are unable to attend.