

Montvale Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes
12 Mercedes Drive, Montvale, New Jersey
Council Chambers at 7:45 pm
February 13, 2017

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), Chairman R. Hanrahan (P), M. Jensen (A), R. Johnson (A), R. Preston (P), L. Skoglund (A), & D. Teagno (P)

Non-Member: Secretary J. Russo (P) & Councilman Koelling (P)

Pledge of Allegiance – Chairman Hanrahan

Approval of the Minutes from the January 17th Meeting

- A motion to approve the minutes was made by D. Eichhorn and seconded by R. Preston.
- The minutes were approved & will be posted on the borough website.

Communication/Correspondence

- Chairman Hanrahan received an email from Judy Russo regarding her resignation from the commission.
- Reviewed the new *Tree Removal Review* document prepared by Mr. Fette. After discussion the commission suggested the following;
 - a. Are new tree(s) being planted?
 - b. If so, number of trees, location (same as the list for tree removal), approx. size, and species.

The commission believes that this additional information will be first step in establishing a tree inventory. Chairman Hanrahan said an E.R.I was established by Eagle Scout last year and will contact Mr. Fette regarding that the E.R.I be utilized. Gathering this additional information from the *Tree Removal Review* can be inputted on the excel spreadsheet.

D. Teagno informed the commission that this form was developed by Mr. Fette, the Building Department inspector as a result of a particular property in the borough that removed extensive amount of trees from their property and which has resulted in the homeowner incurring engineering costs and requiring additional building permits.

Environmental Commission Activity List

- Chairman Hanrahan displayed the activity list on the overhead projector and reviewed each item. A few items required updating and will be reflected at the next meeting.

Meeting Opened to the Public

- A motion to open the meeting to the Public was made by D. Teagno & seconded by R. Preston.

Old Business

Tree Value informational sheet was discussed, there were modifications suggested. The information under 'climate' will be condensed. D. Eichhorn said all the footnotes should be lasted at the end of the document. The commission unanimously decided that the sheet should be limited to one page, two sided. Chairman Hanrahan will review and modify per the commission's input.

Pending tree ordinance continues to be discussed and draft of the ordinance will be modified and then eventually sent to Mayor & Council. The EC is considering the recommendations that when the property owner applies for demolition permit, it should state that no tree, regardless of size be removed and trees cannot be removed in the setback area, set per zone, until a mandatory appearance before the EC.

Chairman Hanrahan provided photos and information regarding the Emerald Ash Borer. R. Johnson was not in attendance at tonight's meeting to provide any data regarding the number of Ash trees in the borough. Chairman Hanrahan had samples of barks from trees that have been effected by the Emerald Ash Borer. This disease can quickly destroy numerous trees. It has been confirmed that trees in Hillsdale, NJ have the disease. The secretary will contact Hillsdale Environmental Commission regarding what, if anything is being done in their municipality regarding the Emerald Ash Borer. As an EC, we can educate the residents and let them know what to be aware of, however, in pesticides treatment is the only remedy.

Meeting Closed to the Public

- A motion to close the meeting to the Public was made by R. Preston and seconded by D. Teagno.

Planning Board Liaison Report

- No report

New Business

Chairman Hanrahan prepared the *Montvale 2017 Cleanup Day* flyer. Flyers are available at borough hall and will be posted on the website. Chairman Hanrahan will go to BC Clean Community Office for supplies. Last year Montvale Dunkin Donuts and Stein's Bagels donated breakfast for the volunteers. Janet Russo, will contact them this year.

Chairman Hanrahan was contacted by community outreach representatives from Sharp Electronics, Wegman's and Benjamin Moore regarding their employees' interest in volunteering for environmental projects in the community. A meeting will be held at borough hall on February 16 at 5:15pm with the representatives and Chairman Hanrahan to brainstorm on possible projects. A few members are invited to participate in this open forum.

Adjournment

- Chairman Hanrahan asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by R. Preston and seconded by D. Teagno. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is March 20. Members will be emailed in the event the meeting is cancelled. The agenda will be posted on the Borough's website. Members are reminded to notify Janet Russo if they are unable to attend.