

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES

Meeting Date/Time: Monday March 16, 2020 – 7:45pm

Meeting Location: Webnex online conference meeting

Open Public Meeting Statement:

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided to the Bergen Record and/or The Ridgewood News, informing the public of the time and place according to the provision of the Open Public Meeting Law (Chapter 231, P.L. 1976)

Roll Call:

Lisa DePellegrini (P), Daniel Eichhorn (P), Chairman Robert Hanrahan (P), Mairead Jensen (P), Randall Preston (P), Lisa Skoglund (P), Vicki Solis (P), Planning Board Liaison Robert Zitelli (P), Council Liaison Chris Roche (P), Secretary Lisa Anastasio (P).

Approval of Minutes – February 10, 2020 Minutes - A motion to approve was made by L. Skoglund and seconded by M. Jensen.

Meeting Opened to Public Agenda & Non-Agenda Items – A motion to open was made by L. Skoglund and seconded by D. Eichhorn.

Members of the Public Present: None.

Meeting Closed to Public - Motion to close by D. Eichhorn and seconded by L. Skoglund.

Communication/Correspondence: Chairman Hanrahan created a new Outlook group, named Friends of the Montvale Environmental Commission and the link was shared with the Environmental Commission members.

Vicki Solis attended ANJEC's Environmental Commission Training on March 7, 2020. She reported one of the topics discussed at ANJEC was the ban of single use plastic bags. NJ may not see a statewide ban in the foreseeable future. However, ANJEC and other state/local environmental groups continue to fight for the ban. The single use plastic bag ban is nonetheless under discussion by the Montvale EC.

New Business: No new business currently.

Old Business:

Memorial Drive Investment

- Chairman reported no updates at this time. Committee has not met since last month.

Clean Up Day

- Over the next few weeks, EC will monitor the situation. The Clean Up Day date may have to be postponed. Suggestion made to possibly change the manner in which Clean Up Day is administered. Chairman will update EC beginning of April on Clean Up Day status.
- Chairman will notify Wegmans and cancel the food donation.

Pascack Trail

- The administrative completeness form is under review by the NJDEP. Boswell is notified once this form is accepted. At that point, the NJDEP has 90 days to review the application for the Trail.
- Wood chips will be used to define the path of the Trail.
- Start date for Trail blazing may begin in Summer 2020.
- A Montvale resident with a background in construction has come forth to assist with the Trail.

Montvale Plastic Bag Update

- Due to the Covid virus, plastic bag recycling is on hold. All designated drop off locations are currently closed.
- EC members stated help is still needed especially at the Recycling Center with gathering and delivering the collected plastic bags to their final drop off location.

Huff Pond

- The application for Huff Pond was received by the NJDEP on Feb. 24, 2020, and is under review.
- Once the pond is dredged, the soil will be housed in hay bales and stored near the Recycling Center. Leaching should not be an issue.
- Start date for Huff Pond work may begin during the Summer of 2020.

Council Liaison Roche Report – Mayor and Council have been in daily contact and are working diligently with Montvale Police, OEM, Borough Administrator and other organizations as circumstances are constantly evolving do to the Coronavirus. As such, elections and adoption of budget are postponed.

Planning Board Liaison Zitelli Report – Mr. Zitelli mentioned he has observed some delays regarding applications to the Planning Board. No other business to report at this time.

Adjournment- At 8:50 pm a motion to adjourn was made by R. Hanrahan and seconded by C. Roche all in favor stating aye.