

## **Hammonton Environmental Commission**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, April 11, 2018**

#### **Call to Order: 7pm**

Attended by: D. Bachalis, A. Menzel, A. Murphy, M. Hozik, S. Carr

Absent: A. Donio, T. Cafiso, M. Matro, E. Baez

Also Present: B. Sacco and K. MacLane

#### **Pledge of Allegiance**

**Approval of Minutes: March 14, 2018. Motion to approve by A. Menzel/A. Murphy.  
M. Hozik abstained. Motion approved.**

**Correspondence:** 1) Pinelands Commission concerning J.R.I and Sons, LLC – 470 S. White Horse Pike extended 22,469 sq ft parking lot without submission of necessary county & municipal approvals/permits.  
2) Pinelands Commission concerning Joseph & Teresa Midure – Their property at 572 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Rd. 11,558 sq ft stone parking developed adjacent to existing agricultural barn within wetlands and the required buffer to wetlands on the parcel.

**Motion to dispense with regular order of business was made by: A. Menzel/S. Carr**

**Presentation:** Heather Warburton - came to observe our meeting and to let us know of the things that she has learned from other towns that may be helpful to us. A resolution that was passed in Gloucester Twp that was passed to urge NJ State government to establish a goal of 100% clean and renewable energy to be met by 2035. She is hoping that Hammonton would get behind this as well.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Town Council - Councilwoman Sacco** – She is also the chairperson for the town's Quality of Life Committee and is trying to get an ordinance passed that would prohibit the mass release of balloons into the atmosphere. It is not really possible to enforce such an ordinance so perhaps something could be done in the way of education at events and local establishments.

**Planning/Zoning** – Commissioner Hozik – both March meetings were cancelled due to snow. The April 4<sup>th</sup> meeting was cancelled as there were no cases to be presented.

**Parks & Recreation - Commissioner Cafiso** – Parks fee schedule was approved by council.

**Hammonton Lake Water Quality Advisory Committee** –

Chairman Bachalis - 2018 workplan complete and on town web-

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site. They will not be spraying nor changing water levels at lake this year. Let it rest for 2 years and pick up again in 2020.

**Bicycle Advisory Committee** – Chairman Bachalis – The Kickstand Crew, headed by Commissioner Murphy is gearing up for some fun activities such as a bike run on 04/19, a wine tour on 04/28. May is National Bicycle Month. Stencils at bike stand locations will be done soon.

**Greater Egg Harbor River Council** – Chairman Bachalis – Nothing to report at this time.

**Green Committee - Commissioner Menzel** – Community Garden opens on 04/14, spaces available for \$20.00. They will be out on 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday in front of Art Center with information and giving out seeds. Their next meeting will be May 7<sup>th</sup>. They will be participating in ACUA Earth Day Festival on 04/22 at the ACUA Environmental Park in Egg Harbor Twp. The Green Committee will be hosting an event demonstrating how to make reusable bags out of old t-shirts.

**Old Business: Work Plan Updates**

- a) **Environmental Impact Statement** – Commissioner Hozik – changes are being worked on and should be done shortly.
- b) **Tree Pruning** – Chairman Bachalis – ACE is in process of pruning those trees those trees that will inhibit electrical work being done.
- c) **Storm Water Quality** – Chairman Bachalis – Rutgers Univ. & ANJEC held seminars in March on rain gardens which a homeowner could get up to \$400.00 to do this on their property.
- d) **Noise Ordinance** – Commissioner Cafiso – absent.
- e) **CFMP - Forest Service NJDAP grants.** We should know by late May or early June. – for our tree bank.
- f) **“E-Presence: Town website & Facebook** – Commissioner Cafiso – Absent.
- g) **Tree Ordinance Enforcement** – All Commissioners
- h) **Watershed Incentive Program** – Chairman Bachalis - nothing to report at this time.
- i) **Public Outreach**
- j) **Grants** – We applied for a 1,500.00 Open Space grant from ANJEC which would help fund an \$18,998. project whose goal is to remove non-native, invasive plants from the Hammonton Lake Park and to replant native plants. Chairman Bachalis sent the proposal to Jerome Barberio for budgetary advice. He also received valuable feedback from Commissioner Menzel whose fellow committee members sent a letter of support. We should have an answer by May.
- k) **H.O.P.E**

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- d) **Tree Bank** – Commissioner Menzel – Nothing to report at this time.

**Tree Applications:**

- 1) Cindy Wetherbee – 316 Central Ave. – 1 tree – Limbs falling and blocking driveway. Motion to approve by A. Menzel and seconded by A. Murphy. All members in favor.
- 2) Mrs. Ordille – 785 12<sup>th</sup> St. – 5 trees – Damaged from storm will replace. Trees not large enough to need permit. Approved.
- 3) Jose & Daisy Pratts – 639 S. 1<sup>st</sup> Rd – 1 tree- Dead, branches keep falling With each storm. M. Hozik made a motion to approve and was seconded by A. Murphy. All members in favor.
- 4) William Stone – 14 S. Grand St. – 1 tree – Damaged by storm. Tree not marked so was not dicisioned. He must mark tree and resubmit application.
- 5) Luke Coia – 453 Middle Rd – 2 trees – Hollow, hit by lightning. Will Replace both trees. Trees were not marked and not decisioned. He must mark trees and resubmit his application.

**New Business:**

**Adjournment**