

Hammonton Environmental Commission

Minutes

Wednesday, December 14, 2022

Call to Order: 7:01 p.m.

Present: Bachalis, Cafiso, Crowley, Carr, Menzel

Absent: Campos, Hozik, Matro, Murphy

Town Council Liaison:

Hammonton Gazette Reporter: Joseph Berenato

Guests: Mr. Arevalo, Mrs. Angela Donio

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion to Dispense with Regular Order of Business: Menzel; Second: Cafiso. Motion approved.

Mr. Arevalo spoke about his application for tree removal. He stated the reason for his request was due to a letter he received from the Town regarding a neighbor complaining about trash on his property. He stated that the Town did inspect the property and found no trash, so he believed it was due to the leaves from the tree. Commissioner Bachalis advised Mr. Arevalo to speak with Code Enforcement for clarification. Motion to deny: Cafiso; Second: Menzel. Denied 5-0

Motion to Return to Regular Order of Business: Cafiso; Second: Menzel. Motion approved.

Committee Reports

- Town Council – by Bachalis; Sam Rodio, Steve Furgione and Renee Rodio were elected to Council. In the coming months they will discuss the use of the trees from the tree bank. South Jersey Industries has a new green team who is looking to work with committees in the community.
- Land Use Board – No report.
- Lake Water – No report.
- Great Egg Harbor River Council – No report.
- Parks and Recreation – Caruso-Cafiso; Drip irrigation will be installed within the week. The parks are dormant for the winter.
- Green Committee – Amy Menzel; The community garden is wrapping up for the season, but members will meet throughout the winter to plan for next year. Green Day was very successful, and they collected 30 pounds of denim as well as 17-20 pair of sneakers both of which will be recycled as well as a large number of plastic toys.
- Bike Advisory –No report.

Old Business (Work Plan):

- Pollinator garden needs some work and there are 400 plants that need to be planted ASAP. The Committee scheduled to meet on 1/10 at 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. to start the planting.
- There has been no real progress on the green building. Dan will give a copy to all members for their review.
- Open Space & Recreation plan review. Committee members will meet on 11/16 at 6:00 p.m. at Casciano's.

Tree Removal Applications

1. Baker, 500 N. 4th Street, 18 trees, lot clearing. Motion to table until December meeting and have Mr. Baker appear. Motion: Cafiso; Second: Carr. Tabled until December meeting.
2. Criston, 131 Fernwood Drive, 1 tree, no replacement. Motion: Carr; Second: Cafiso. Approved 5-0.
3. Pullia, 36 Allen Lane. 2 trees, no replacement. Approved By Commissioner Bachalis.
4. Jiampetti, 721 Campanella Terrace, 1 tree, no replacement. Motion: Cafiso; Second: Menzel. Approved 5-0.
5. Sassano, 36 thru 38 N. Packard Street, 25 trees, 12 new replacements. Motion to deny due to the application not being submitted by the property owner. Motion: Cafiso; Second: Menzel. Denied 5-0.
6. Zoyac, 896 Central Avenue, 1 tree, no replacement. Motion to approve: Cafiso; Second: Crowley. Approved 5-0.

New Business

1. Marty Matro has offered to host the Holiday gathering at her house after the December meeting.

Adjournment: 8:04 p.m.