

# Hammonton Environmental Commission

## Minutes

Wednesday, May 11, 2022

Call to Order: 7:11 p.m.

Present: Bachalis, Caruso-Cafiso, Menzel, Murphy

Absent: Campos, Carr, Crowley, Hozik, Matro

Town Council Liaison:

Hammonton Gazette Reporter: Joseph Berenato

Pledge of Allegiance

### Committee Reports

- Town Council – Commissioner Bachalis; Council passed a resolution declaring April 29, 2022 as Arbor Day.
- Land Use Board – Hozik; No report.
- Lake Water – Bachalis; The committee met on May 10<sup>th</sup>. Professor Emma Witt will be at the Lake in June to discuss the vegetation study with her students. Grant opportunities for Stormwater Management and the Mullica River Watershed were also discussed.
- Great Egg Harbor River Council – Bachalis; No report.
- Parks and Recreation – Caruso-Cafiso; The submission for Stormwater Management is in Pinelands hands. There will be a chain link fence installed at the Boyer Ave. fields. The pickleball/tennis courts are still be discussed and work on.
- Green Committee – Amy Menzel; The committee constructed and replaced 10 beds at the community garden and there are still plots available. Seeds will be given out at Third Thursday or residents can go to [greencommittee.com](http://greencommittee.com) to request seeds. There will be a green market held on Third Thursday from June-September by Chimney and Marcello's.
- Bike Advisory – Murphy; May 22<sup>nd</sup> is the Bike Rodeo. The Toy Market is holding a trivia giveaway and there will be free helmets from the Cross County Connection.

### Old Business (Work Plan):

1. Dedication by Rider – This won't be passed. The decision will be discussed further in June with Councilman Oliva.
2. Tree City USA application approved. The potential location for one of the signs is at 12<sup>th</sup> Street in front of the water tower.
3. Green Building/Environmental Sustainability master plan element – Some members met a few weeks ago and got as far as page 7. There will be another meeting set up to review more at a later date.
4. CFMP
  - a. CSIP grant, inspection debrief - The trees at the tree bank and the Boyer Ave. fields were inspected and all are doing very well. There was only 1 tree at the tree bank that didn't survive.
  - b. Arbor Day tree distribution, debrief, and disposition of remaining trees – the remained of the trees are to be given away at Third Thursday.
5. Single-use plastics
  - a. NJ.com coverage
  - b. Disposition of the Leviathan – The Leviathan is starting to deteriorate and needs to be taken down. The Commission will set and date to take it apart and count the bags. There will be a contest open to residents to guess the number of bags it took to create.

### Tree Removal Applications

1. Blake Gallo, 546 Peach Street. One tree, no replacement. Motion: Caruso-Cafiso; Second: Menzel. Approved 4-0
2. Edward Loeffler, 246 N. Washington Street. One tree, no replacement. Motion: Caruso-Cafiso; Second: Murphy. Approved 4-0.
3. St. Joseph Academy, 328 Vine Street. One tree, no replacement. Motion: Caruso-Cafiso; Second: Murphy. Approved 4-0.
4. James & Jessica Curcio, 430 French Street. Three trees, three replacements. Motion to ask resident to mark the trees and will review after marked: Caruso-Cafiso; Second: Menzel. The trees were marked, and the application was approved by Commissioner Bachalis.
5. Elena Montecillo, 894 Central Avenue. Four trees, three replacements. Motion to approve 1 dead tree: Caruso-Cafiso; Second: Menzel. Approval of 1 tree 4-0. The other trees were not approved, and the resident was advised of their right to appeal.
6. Adam Brownlee, 779 Fairview Avenue. One tree, no replacement. Motion to deny based on tree not being marked: Caruso-Cafiso; Second: Murphy. Denied 4-0.
7. Paul Kalani, 612 9<sup>th</sup> Street. Three trees, no replacements. Motion: Caruso-Cafiso; Second: Menzel. Approved 4-0.
8. Patricia Provnick, 720 N. Egg Harbor Road. One tree, no replacement. Motion: Menzel; Second: Caruso-Cafiso. Approved 4-0.
9. John F. Cannon, 370 N. Chew Road. One tree, one replacement. Motion: Caruso-Cafiso; Second: Menzel. Approved 4-0.
10. Louis DeStefano, 512 Pleasant Street. One tree, no replacement. Motion: Caruso-Cafiso; Second: Murphy. Approved 4-0.
11. ToniAnn Wuillermin, 340 Central Avenue. Two trees, two-four replacements. Motion: Caruso-Cafiso; Second: Murphy. Approved 3-0.

### New Business

1. Ryan Neidoba has a zero-energy ready home. He I trying to find out if this is the first home like this in NJ. He has offered a tour to the members of the Commission.
2. The NJ Urban Communities Forrest Stewardship grant applications are now out. They are due back on July 8<sup>th</sup>. Asking for a resolution to be created in support of this grant. Motion: Caruso-Cafiso; Second: Menzel. Approved 4-0.

Adjournment: 8:34 p.m.