

MOORESTOWN ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

DATE: Thursday, March 17th, 2022, 7:00 P.M. @ Library Room B.

PRESENT: Joan Ponessa, Chris Salvatico, Steve Toniatti, James Barry, Stephen Jaffe, George Gravenstine, Barbara Rich, Nancy Jamanow & Quinton Law.

MINUTES: Approved. Moved by George and seconded by Barb.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: Joan mentioned that even though the Township leaf collections will not happen until May residents are already placing leaves at the street. This is a concern. Also, the next quarter Township environmental focus will be plastics to coincide with the NJ plastic bag ban that will go into effect May 4th, 2022.

APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW:

Longo. ZBA#2019-34A: Block 4403, Lots 4 & 5. 205-209 Chester Avenue. The applicant is seeking a use variance to permit conversion of an existing mixed-use building to a fully residential use consisting of six (6) apartments. The lot coverage will decrease from 11,496 S.F. (72.5%) to 11,165 S.F. (70.5%) due to the reduction in driveway area. This application will be possibly heard in May so MEAC will have more time to review any additional documents. The one concern was the need for gutters and downspouts as well as the seeming lack of proper parking lot drainage.

Safari Energy. ZBA#2021-34: Block 3202, Lot 1. 308 Harper Drive. The applicant wishes to add canopy solar to the parking lot area. MEAC reviewed the plans and noted a discrepancy in the number of trees listed to be removed. There were multiple plan sheets with conflicting information that stated either there will be 7 or 36 trees removed from the property. Nancy stated that the true number is 7 and there are typos on the plans. This project has been put on hold by applicant request to re-evaluate the design. MEAC will continue to follow the progress of this project.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE INVENTORY (ERI): Joan updated the Committee on the progress of the ERI. Joan, Chris and Nancy will have a status call with DVRPC's Mel Musie on March 25th at 11:00 A.M.

STORMWATER ORDINANCE: Joan announced that Walt Frazier, the Chairman of the Zoning Board will attend MEAC's April meeting to discuss a plan for implementing some of MEAC's requested stormwater rules changes. James Barry is working on a plan on how this might possibly work and will present his findings in April as well.

MEAC CHARTER UPDATE DISCUSSION: Town Council is planning to update committee charters and have asked the various committees to discuss and suggest changes. Chris emailed the Committee's suggested changes from last meeting and these were reviewed at this meeting. Each suggested change was read aloud and discussed. Several additional changes were suggested and added as well. A motion to vote for approval as written and corrected was made by George and seconded by Steve Jaffe. All members voted in the affirmative. Chris will update the Charter and email the Committee a clean copy. This email will also represent an official submission to the Township and Council.

REPORT FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE: Quinton updated the Committee on the monthly environmental call that took place with Council and Stakeholders on March 16th, 2022 to discuss their ideas for the 2022 Year of the Environment. Joan and George were on the call representing MEAC and the Strawbridge Lake Beautification Committee respectively. Quinton also mentioned that the Township will now accept E-Waste at the DPW facility. Also, on April 2nd at 10:00 A.M. STEM is planning to work on the pollinator garden and is asking for volunteers. Quinton also mentioned that from 6:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. on March 22nd there will be an open house in Council Chambers to discuss the Lenola Streetscape project. He, the Mayor and Barb attended a Climate Policy Summit at the WAMS school where they were delighted at the energy and interest shown by the students. Other matters discussed were the status of the Township's sprinkler ordinance. Members are unsure if it is still in force. Quinton stated he would check. Overall, Quinton was asking that the various Committees help by submitting interesting environmentally focused articles for posting on the Township's Facebook page. Finally, Quinton also mentioned that the Township has been given a AAA credit rating.

OPEN SPACE: Barb reported that the Trucksess family is still in consultation about their property. The subdivision of the Garwood property (Flying Feather Farm) will be heard at the April 7th Planning Board hearing at which point after the Township can proceed with the acquisition of the remainder of the property for preservation. Barb asked about reprinting the "Take a Hike" brochure. Nancy will see what is available in the budget. Barb had two additional informative brochures that she would like to have printed as well. It was discussed that these two could be scanned and made available digitally if the budget did not allow for their printing at this time.

FUTURE MEETINGS: The next following standard meeting will be scheduled for Thursday April 21st at 7:00 P.M. in Library Meeting Room B.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:51 P.M. Moved by Barb and seconded by Steve Toniatti.

SUBMITTED BY: Chris Salvatico, Secretary.