

**2020 REORGANIZATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING**

January 15, 2020

**OPENING MEETING:**

The **Reorganization/Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission** of the Borough of Roosevelt was held on Wednesday, **January 15, 2020** at 7:05 P.M at the Borough Hall. The Roll was called by **Michael Ticktin** who had been re-appointed **Chairperson** by Mayor Peggy Malkin at the recent January Reorganization Meeting of the Borough Council. His **Three-year term is 1/1/2020 – 12/31/2022.**

**SWEARING IN OF NEW AND REAPPOINTED MEMBERS:**

Members present to be sworn in this evening are Ms. **Mary Tulloss** and Ms. **Ellen Silverman.**

**ROLL CALL:**

Present; Ashburner, Felong, Ticktin, Tulloss, Silverman - Alt 1

Absent: Dermody, Hartley, Murray

**ADEQUATE PUBLIC NOTICE OF MEETING STATEMENT:**

To show that proper notice of this meeting has been given, **Chairperson Michael Ticktin** stated that the minutes indicate: “Adequate notice of this meeting has been given, in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, by filing with the Borough Clerk, by posting on bulletin boards at the Roosevelt Borough Hall and Roosevelt Post Office on Feb.7, **2019.**”

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE AGENDA:** None

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Motion by Felong, Second Silverman, Unanimous Vote

**ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR AND SECRETARY:**

**Vice-Chairperson** - Motion was made by Ms. Tulloss and second by Ms. Felong that Mr. **Nicholas Murray** continue as Vice Chairperson. This passed unanimously..

**Secretary** - Motion was made by Ms. Tulloss and second by Ms. Felong that Ms. **Ann Kassahun** continue as Secretary. This passed unanimously.

**ADOPTION OF MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2020 & JANUARY 2021 :**

Chair Michael Ticktin asked for a motion and second to approve 2020 meeting dates to continue being held on the **third Wednesday** of each month. Motion was made by Mr. Ashburner and second by Ms. Silverman for meetings to continue on the third Wednesday of each month for the year **2020 and January 20, 2021** at 7:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall. Members unanimously accepted the following Environmental Commission meeting dates:

**REGULAR MEETING DATES**

February 19, 2020	August 19, 2020
March 18, 2020	September 16, 2020
April 15, 2020	October 21, 2020
May 20, 2020	November 18, 2020
June 17, 2020	December 16, 2020
July 15, 2020	January 20, <u>2021</u>

**This ends the 2020 Reorganization portion of this meeting.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE AGENDA:** None

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Chair Ticktin asked for motion and second to approve this evening's Agenda. Motion was made by Ms. Felong, seconded by Ms. Silverman, and unanimously approved.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion was made by Ms. Mary Tulloss and seconded by Mr. Sam Ashburner to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on November 20, 2019 with the following correction at the top of Page 31: omit this first paragraph, Sustainable Jersey, as Sustainable Jersey appears further down on this same page. This change was unanimously accepted.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**REPORT OF PLANNING BOARD LIAISON:** Mr. Tim Hartley was absent

**REPORT OF COUNCIL LIAISON:** Mr. Luke Dermody was absent.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Administrative - No Report

Forest Management - No Report

Invasive Plant Species - Mr. Steve Taylor reported that some Red Buds were planted along Rochdale in October and the Power Company came and cut down some trees. He checked and they did not cut any Red Bud trees. The next time they come, we will put some tags up to guide them. As for the new sign along Spruce Lane, it is very impressive. Mr. Taylor said that some bamboos have escaped and are growing and that we need significant barriers (steel sheets) to control them. Chairman Ticktin informed the members that there is a **manageable form of bamboo** that does not spread. **This bamboo information needs to go to our Borough Council.** Several properties, both public and private, now have a problem. Chair Ticktin asked for a motion regarding this Bamboo Problem. Motion was made by Mr. Ashburner, second by Ms. Felong that the Council be notified of need for **bamboo control** in Roosevelt. This was unanimously accepted by the members and will be forwarded to the Council. Mr. Taylor also reported that he checked the Woodland Trail; there is Multiflora Rose between Rochdale and Valley Roads. There is some Burning Bush along the South Valley Bike Path, so there still is plenty of work to be done.

Stream Monitoring - Ms. Mary Tulloss reported that she will be contacting the Water Shed folks in a month or two inviting them to come out to check the area we monitor and give us some training in the Spring.

Sustainable Jersey - Ms. Kim Felong reported that we received the inventory from Sustainable Jersey.. There are credits for tree planting and attending the Rabies Clinic that can be supplemental to earning points; she is checking these out. She is working on a Summary of the Art Walk and how it enhances Roosevelt, is considered Community Development. We need 150 points; we had 85 in November. Schools are a separate entity. Also there is a way to mention a "planned action" and add more at a later date. We will try to get more information out to the public about our Town and School, such as performances of our String Band and other talented groups, poetry readings, etc, in town and in other places locals visit, as far as Philadelphia.

Old Business - Ms. Felong mentioned that a Bill passed the Legislature yesterday, **S3407**, and it allows the Department of Fish & Wildlife to give unlimited permits for beaver trapping. It has not been signed by Governor Murphy yet, and they are asking people to call the Governor and ask him to veto this Bill. There was discussion that beavers are problems; even people in Millstone are drowning them. Our members agreed that we should pass a Resolution to send to the Governor in favor of **not** killing the beavers like this. Chair Ticktin said this will have to be done quickly. The Governor's phone number is 609-292-6000. Motion was made by Ms. Felong and second by Mr. Ashburner that this Resolution be prepared for our Governor. This was unanimously accepted by this Commission and will be completed.

New Business - Ms. Mary Tulloss reported that she noticed that some large branches have been dumped at the cemetery loop in the road. She reported this to the Borough Clerk. Other news is that e-mails are going around saying that "Governor Murphy got an "A" and that there is a plan for working with electric vehicles that the Governor is to sign! Also tax credits for electric vehicles and a rebate for having a charging station at your property were passed. The plastic bags bill passed one house, not both; there is a website.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

No further business, on motion by Ms. Mary Tulloss and second by Ms. Silverman, this meeting was ended unanimously at 8:12 P.M.

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Ann M. Kassahun, Secretary