

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

September 22, 2021

Meeting Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission of the Borough of Roosevelt was called to order by Chairperson Michael Ticktin on Wednesday, August 18, 2021 at 7:04 P.M. via Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/3251865085?pwd=L1RWNIhPYTZZdUZ5R3piT0NZWHhuUT09>

Meeting ID: 325 186 5085

Password: 968068

One tap mobile +16465588656,,3251865085#,,#968068# US (New York)

+13126266799,,3251865085#,,#968068# US (Chicago) Meeting ID: 325 186 5085

Password: 968068

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 notices published in the Times of Trenton on January 26, 2021 and in the Asbury Park Press on January 27, 2021 and posted on the bulletin boards in the Borough Hall and at the Roosevelt Post Office.”

The Roll was called by Secretary, Kaitlyn Ippolito

ROLL CALL:

Present: Sam Ashburner, Kim Felong, Mike Hamilton, Nick Murray, Mike Ticktin, Mary Tulloss

Absent: Ellen Silverman

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE AGENDA: Chairperson Ticktin opened the meeting to the public for the agenda at 7:02p.m. Seeing no public comment, the public portion for the agenda was closed at 7:02 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Motion was made by Kim Felong to approve the agenda and second was made by Nick Murray. This passed by unanimous vote.

WATERSHED INSTITUTE PRESENTATION: Steve Tuorto, Director of Science and Stewardship and Sophie Glovier, Assistant Director of Policy, gave a detailed report on storm water runoff and the impervious coverage in Roosevelt Borough and their assessment and suggestions. Kim Felong asks if there are financial resources available to help with costs. Steve Tuorto states he has websites available.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: August 18, 2021 –Mary Tulloss made a motion to approve the August 18, 2021, minutes with a second from Sam Ashburner. Kim Felong Abstained. The Minutes passed.

Steve Tuorto says, before he leaves, that he will email the material to share with Borough Council.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

REPORT OF PLANNING BOARD LIASON: None.

REPORT OF COUNCIL LIASON: Mike Hamilton explains that Council has also been discussing and trying to solve drainage issues, specifically in the back of the Borough Hall garage. He explains that remediation efforts have not worked and suspects it may be ground water. Council is considering a gravity drainage system. There is also trouble with the North Valley Road drainage system getting clogged and who is responsible for the water that is pooling on homeowner's properties. The Borough engineer is looking into how the system was designed and who is essentially responsible for the water. Mike Hamilton also discusses the issue with new homeowners cutting down trees before they are made aware of the Borough's Tree Ordinance. Council plans to get the potential homeowner's information from the Certificate of Occupancy application when they apply before they close on the home and inform them of the Tree Ordinance. He asks about the dead trees at Homestead and Valley. Steve informs him that they are not meant to survive long but that they can be left alone as long as they bloom. Mike Hamilton also discusses the Borough's Rental Fee or the cleanup of Borough Hall and that the matter has been tabled.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Administrative- Mike Ticktin tells the commission that Ellen Silverman has requested a refund of \$260 for her registration fee to attend The NJ State Shade Tree Federation Annual Conference. Kim Felong agrees because it will give the environmental Commission 2 points towards the community forest management program.

Kim Felong made a motion to approve the reimbursement of \$260 to Ellen Silverman with a second from Sam Ashburner. With all in favor, the motion was approved.

Forest Management- Kim Felong asked if anyone has attended the final core training course that their grant is contingent upon. Nick Murray states he has training and Kim will check with Emily if his training will count. Two members of the community attended a free webinar through the Environment Commission Facebook page, which gave the Commission a point on the required 8.

Sophie Glovier tells the Environmental Commission that Princeton has a requirement that a tree removal contractor must register with the municipality, thus receiving a copy of the Town's ordinance. She also can send the language used if interested.

Trails-Sam Ashburner explains that more woodchips are being used on the soggy parts of the trail. The puncheons that moved in the last storm have been replaced and he is looking into a more permanent solution.

Invasive Plant Species – Stephan Taylor reported that Swamp Milkweeds are available.

Stream Monitoring- Mary Tulloss stated the Watershed Institute has started in person training for stream monitoring. Mary Tulloss attended the training and will test the stream the 3rd weekend of every month between 10am and noon. Ellen and Corky went out that past weekend to do the stream monitoring and recorded their findings and submitted their report to the Watershed Institute. Mary purchased a folding table for the materials and a tub to place in the creek for \$44.50.

Mike Hamilton made a motion to repay Mary and Kim Felong seconded. All were in favor.

Nick Murray asks Mary if she is using the proper PPE. Mary has not been using the equipment but will start to.

Nick Murray makes a motion to repay Mary for gloves, wipes and goggles, with a second from Sam Ashburner. All were in favor.

Sustainable Jersey- None.

Old Business: None

New Business: Kim Felong submitted the brochure with all the suggestions. Mike Ticktin suggests printing 400 for distribution.

Sustainable Jersey does not run an “Adopt a Drain” but did direct Kim Felong to the D.E.P website with information on ARC GIS mapping that would be a useful tool to get the storm drains on the map.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Nick Murray motioned to adjourn Kim Felong offered a second. It was unanimously passed to adjourn.

Kaitlyn Ippolito, Secretary