

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

February 16, 2022

Meeting Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission of the Borough of Roosevelt was called to order by Chairperson Michael Ticktin on Wednesday, February 16, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. via Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/3251865085?pwd=L1RWNlhPYTZZdUZ5R3piT0NZWHhuUT09>

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 and the Asbury Park Press on February 11, 2022 and posted on the bulletin boards in the Borough Hall and at the Roosevelt Post Office."

The Roll was called by Chairperson Michael Ticktin

ROLL CALL:

Present: Kim Felong, Mike Ticktin, Mary Tulloss, Ellen Silverman, David Teich

Absent: Sam Ashburner, Mike Hamilton, Tim Hartley, Nick Murray

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

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

ELECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION SECRETARY: **Motion** was made by Kim Felong to nominate Maria Dellasala as the new Environmental Commission Secretary and a second was made by Mike Ticktin. This passed by unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

REPORT OF PLANNING BOARD LIASON: None

REPORT OF COUNCIL LIASON: None

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Administrative: Election of Environmental Commission Secretary.

Forest Management: Kim Felong reports on the following two items.

1 - Annual Accomplishment Report was submitted last Thursday, (2/10/22), reported on our accomplishments as community outreach that was a combination of Facebook page and trail Maintenance, also the Arbor Day/Earth Day Tree giveaway. Invasive tree and hazardous tree removal and happy to report that we had a combination of 322 volunteer hours.

2- Kim Felong reached out to Joe Trammell and Bob Atwood to receive Core training, Bob has accepted and has already registered.

Motion was made by Ms. Felong to approve the reimbursement \$30 registration fee for Bob Atwood and second was made by Mary Tulloss. This passed by unanimous vote.

Trail Maintenance: Ellen Silverman reports on Trail Maintenance Plan (everyone received the email) if approved that will be the basis for us to use for the application for special use permit for going on the area of the trail that is the Assunpink land. Ms. Silverman plans to enter this as a special use permit for maintaining the trail for the year not as an individual one. The special use permit is to be applied for 30 days prior to the event.

Steve and I are planning volunteer opportunity this Saturday at 1:00pm for some Invasive plant removal it will be at the trail between Valley pass and 571.

Ms. Tulloss adds that a raccoon had come out of the area when a resident was walking her dog. Be careful. Will be meeting closer to Valley Road.

Invasive Plant Species – Stephan Taylor - covered

Stream Monitoring- Mary Tullos stated that since this is the third weekend of the month, we will be doing stream monitoring on Saturday. Jane has a very nice article about Stream Monitoring that will be coming out in the Borough Bulletin.

Sustainable Jersey- Ellen Silverman as of December several actions expired, about 90 points, if we wish to maintain our bronze status, we need to re-apply including our green team. If we re-apply for those for the sustainable Jersey grant, we should be back on track. We will need to do by the beginning of June. Ellen Silverman will organize it and asks Dave Teich if he would like to join the group.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Mike Ticktin discusses the Resolution in support of the ability of municipalities to adopt regulations to protect public health, safety and welfare from threats of flooding. This is about reacting to concerns that the Community Affairs Department may be in the process of adopting regulations under site improvement standards that would limit the ability of municipalities to impose stricter standards that would apply to flooding. This is coming out in support of the NJDEP that municipalities are permitted to impose additional and more stringent storm water management regulations. Ellen Silverman states this is for there's been a movement that wants to say that if a municipality adopts a storm water management program that's more than the DEP has that it doesn't have to be complied, that's not how the state worded it, they said you can adopt the DEP ordinance, you can go for more stringent one in your Borough. I think what we are saying we are supporting the

Borough being more stringent. Mike Ticktin states Site Improvements standards were to avoid problems that builders have had with different requirements with different municipalities. Mary Tulloss states that this came out from ANJEC – professional organization of all Environmental Commissions; asks if everyone gets a copy, and asks Maria Dellasala to add Dave Teich to the mailing.

Motion was made by Mary Tulloss to approve this resolution and a second was made by Ellen Silverman. This passed by unanimous vote.

Mary Tulloss will advise ANJEC that we approved the resolution and Mike Ticktin we will let Mike Hamilton know so he can bring to the Borough Council.

Second Item: Environmental Commission to recommend to the Borough Council an Agreement between Borough of Roosevelt and professional forester Ronald Farr, the fee is \$8,500. Ellen Silverman states that time frame is 4 months from signature of contract. He will do the passages portion with the leaves off the trees and the ID portion with the leaves on the trees. The procedure will be videotaped. Kim Felong states part of the annual accomplishment report for urban community forest is to submit still photographs can be included in next year's report. Mary Tulloss states that this is a very comprehensive plan and asks about item number 3 – will they be able to tell us what is growing? Ellen Silverman states he is familiar with our area; he will be doing by plot survey. Steve Taylor states after the survey there are street trees that are in bad shape, what's going to happen to them? Ellen Silverman the information is presented to the Borough Council they will act on some things. With this survey we are eligible for other grants, for planting, there is a planning tool to present to the utility company. With a plan we may get help with the removal of some of the problem trees. Mike Ticktin the Borough Council concern would be any trees that are truly hazardous and danger to a person property that's what they will have to focus on. Ellen Silverman if you own the tree, you are liable. Mike Ticktin states once it's brought to your attention it gives you an obligation to do something about it.

Motion was made by Kim Felong to recommend to the Borough Council and a second was made by Dave Teich. This passed by unanimous vote.

Third Item: Woodland Trail Maintenance Plan - Ellen Silverman, added the following paragraph, The Green Team volunteers while working on the trails on behalf of the Borough, will be covered under the Borough's policies of General Liability. Kim Felong asks paragraph that states that volunteers will be trained in chain saw and hand tool, can we provide basic safety equipment for volunteers. Mike Ticktin Asks how to make sure that safety requirements are met. Ellen Silverman states we use to have a waiver form. There is a class online course for chain saw safety, we can ask the volunteers to take it. Mike Ticktin we can ask for proof. Ellen Silverman we will do research and bring it back at the next meeting. Kim Felong will check with Ana to see how to make the purchase of safety glasses, gloves and vests.

Motion was made by Ellen Silverman to approve the Woodland Trail Maintenance Plan and a second was made by Kim Felong. This passed by unanimous vote.

Ellen Silverman asks about the Storm Drain adoption, Mike Ticktin states that the Council voted to endorse the program. Now we have to get people to participate in it, make a poster put out information telling people how they sign up and what they have to do.

Ellen Silverman they are working on Farm Lane; they are working on the drainage system as well as the utility. Mike Ticktin believes they are working on replacing water and sewer lines and repaving., he doesn't know about the storm drains, that can be checked through the borough.

Kim Felong – topic of interest Native Plant bill that was passed recently, Bateman Bill – requires nurseries in New Jersey to encourage and promote the sale of native plants and increase consumer awareness of the importance of native plants in the Eco-System through their advertising. Timothy’s on Route 130 has already started.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Chairperson Ticktin opened the meeting to the public.
Chairperson Ticktin closed the public forum.

ADJOURNMENT: Kim Felong motioned to adjourn Dave Teach offered a second. It was unanimously passed to adjourn at 7:53 P.M.

Maria Dellasala, Secretary