

MANTOLOKING ENVIROINMENTAL COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES

Date: January 13, 2015

Meeting No: 2015-01

Members Present: Bixby, Buck, Daly, Pilling, McIntyre, Wesson, White, Witkowski  
Public: Willie Decamp  
Members Absent:

- Chairman Bixby called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
- The minutes of the November 2014 meeting were approved.
- Chairman Bixby noted that no meeting was held in December 2014.
- Chairman Bixby welcomed the new members to the Commission; Sandy Witkowski and Joe Daly.
- Eileen McIntyre updated the group on the dune planting presentation. The presentation will be a joint effort between the Bay Head and Mantoloking environmental commissions. The presentation will be targeted for the late April / early May time frame and held at the Mantoloking Yacht Club. Eileen will continue to coordinate with D'Arcy Green of Bay Head. John Wesson mentioned that maybe a direct mailing could be made to the ocean-front homeowners regarding the presentation. This will be discussed further.
- Since Beth Nelson is no longer a member of the Commission, Sandy W. volunteered to be the liaison to the Seaweeders. The Seaweeders received a grant of \$5,000 and a portion the grant will be used to restore the Patty Brand Garden located on the Bergen Avenue causeway. Joan Mattia is the chairman of the committee leading that effort.
- C. Bixby stated that he hopes to have the draft of the spring newsletter out to all members next month.
- Jenny Buck briefly discussed an article in the New York Times newspaper on the milkweed plant. There is a NON-native "tropical milkweed," that looks very similar to one of our native milkweeds. Experts believe it is causing issues in timing of monarch migration vs food availability.
- Joe Daly asked if the town plans to install plants at the entrances to the beach access walkways. The overall opinion is that the Borough will not plant the walkways, but it may be something the Seaweeders will want to take up. Joe to speak with MaryAnn Finch regarding this issue.

- Connie Pilling mentioned that she attended a Seaweeders presentation on rain gardens which was very informative.
- Eileen McIntyre stated that she has observed several large construction vehicles sitting and idling their engines for long periods of time and felt that the Mantoloking police should be encouraged to enforce the State idling law.
- Eileen M. mentioned the Commission be should be more engaged in celebrating Earth Day. After some discussion it was agreed that the Commission will participate in Earth Day by leading groups on litter clean ups along the roadways. This effort will be announced at Council meetings, advertised on the Mantoloking Reporter, and put up on the Borough web site. This year's Earth Day is April 25, 2015. Willie Decamp offered to lend the Commission 'grabbers' to use during the litter pick up.
- John Wesson mentioned that the restoration work along Rt 35 in Bay Head was being completed with grassed areas vs. the pea gravel in Mantoloking. John feels this is a better approach and wondered if the Town could ask the Contractor to put in grass. John to take up this issue with Doug Popaca.

In a related topic, John mentioned that the new trees installed along Rt. 35 have low branches that could be a safety issue.

- Jenny Buck mentioned that she took possession of the soil borings obtained from the sheet pile project and noticed that at climate controlled at room temperature vs subterranean temperature (no containers have been opened), biological growth has begun, which although interesting, probably isn't something to let continue unchecked. The Rutgers/New Jersey Geological and Water Survey Core Repository has stated interest in obtaining the core samples. Jenny will discuss with the Mantoloking Historical society, and continue discussions with them regarding this
- Jenny mentioned that the Commission should publicize the County sponsored hazardous waste drop off dates. Jenny will distribute the dates and we will post on the Commission web page.
- Jenny Buck is working on a short blurb to share on asthma symptoms post-Sandy cleanup. This will be shared with the MEC once it has been approved by a doctor
- The next meeting will be February 9, 2015, 5:00 p.m. at the Mantoloking Yacht Club Sailing Center.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Submitted by:  
Courtney Bixby, Chairman