



June 10, 2019

Meeting Minutes No: 2019-06

MANTOLOKING ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Attendance:

MEC Member	Present?
Brad Batcha (Borough Council Liaison)	Yes
Denise Boughton (Planning Board Liaison)	No
Doreen Duggan (MYC representative)	No
Jan O'Malley	Yes
Connie Pilling	Yes
Barbara Turro	Yes
John Wesson	Yes

The meeting was called to order at the Mantoloking Borough Hall at 5:33 PM. Willie de Camp, President of Save Barnegat Bay (SBB), Beth Nelson, an incoming MEC member, and Barbara Benz, an interested homeowner, also joined the meeting.

Old Business:

Meeting Minutes

- John made a motion to approve the May 2019 meeting minutes as distributed via email on May 22, 2019. Connie seconded. All voted to approve. Jan will ask Edwin to post the minutes on the Borough web site. Jan asked for a volunteer to capture minutes going forward.

Membership Update

- Due to Claudia Larson's resignation, Mayor White will propose a resolution to the Borough Council at its June 18th meeting to appoint Jan O'Malley as MEC chair and Beth Nelson to replace Claudia.

The Protection and Health of the Land

Recycling Update

- Thanks to Councilman Batcha's efforts, the single stream flyer and 1Q19 MEC newsletter were sent out to Borough homeowners.
- Willie pointed out that recycling does not have to be profitable and suggested that the MEC band together with other Ocean County environmental commissions (EC) to pressure the County to enable processing other types of recyclables, e.g., 1 – 5.
- Jan suggested that the MEC focus on prevention by increasing the public awareness of the negative impact of improperly disposing of things like mylar balloons, six pack rings, fishing line and hooks, etc.

Environmental Resource Inventory (ERI)

- Jan has planned a meeting in early July with a sub-group of people to review the ERI to improve its relevance to the Planning Board.
- It was suggested to inquire of Planning Board attorneys how an ERI would be most useful.

The Protection and Health of the Ocean and Barnegat Bay



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- Jan reported that the Barnegat Bay Blitz was successful. 7 residents participated and we cleaned Albertson, Princeton, Downer and Old Bridge bay street ends; Lyman ocean to bay, Bergen beaches at the entrance to Channel; and the southerly portion of South Lagoon Lane. Although the street ends were much cleaner than in the past, we collected about 6 bags of trash on one bag of recyclables.
- Connie suggested adding more soil in the rocks at the foot of Downer. She has successfully grown mallows there. MEC members are willing to help her with this.
- There was discussion about picking a date next year to gather residents for a specific, focused event on awareness of MEC initiatives. Willie suggested that this could be hosted in the area of the Patty Brant park (between Bergen and Channel) and potentially include Kellogg's lot on Dale's point to feature native plant gardens. We should continue to plan this event.

More Action on the Dead Black Pines

- John did not have anything new to report. His work is on-going.

Communication:

- Denise was unable to attend the meeting and thus there was no report.

Barnegat Bay Marina (BBM) Variance Requests

- Willie noted that both the Borough and Save Barnegat Bay have hired attorneys to oppose this application. Brad indicated that the Borough will be introducing more resolutions at its next business meeting to hire experts to address the planning, light, noise and traffic aspects of the application at the next scheduled hearing on July 10.
- It was suggested that it would be a good idea to connect with the Brick EC to determine its position on this application. The next meeting in June 25 at 6:30 PM.

New Business:

The MEC discussed a number of potential new initiatives to pursue, listed below. In general, the MEC thought that we should collaborate with other nearby ECs as it is likely that we have shared interests. Jan agreed to contact other EC chairs.

- Speakers Bureau. Willie stated that SBB can help obtain speakers while ECs can help publicize. Beth suggested Louise Wooten as a speaker.
- Benefits of native plants (especially over impermeable man-made products). We need to make residents more specifically aware of which native plants are suitable for Mantoloking. We can consider making available the Barnegat Bay Partnership "Going Native" brochure. Barbara indicated she has a contact.

Willie mentioned that Mantoloking has a federally endangered plant, the Sea Beach Amaranth, on its beach near the foot of the dunes. He stated that the seeds are dispersed by storms. Beach goers should avoid this area. Willie suggested contacting Meaghan Kohl of the New Jersey Field Office of the US



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Fish and Wildlife Service

(<https://www.fws.gov/northeast/njfieldoffice/contact.html>)

- Impacts of Storm water management
- Climate change and Mantoloking survival (Mantoloking is predicted to be underwater with 95% probability by 2100)
- Reducing shoreline reliction - extending slow speed/no wake zone. It was suggested that we consider the approach that was used at the Slade Dale Park on Dorsett Dock Rd in Point Borough.
- Potential impacts of offshore wind generation – pros and cons
- Noise pollution – what level of background noise is acceptable, e.g., from HVAC, generators, motor boats, traffic, outdoor speakers? Is our existing ordinance sufficient?
- Light pollution – what level of lighting is acceptable, e.g., from accent lights on houses or on landscaping, spot lights, flag lights, street lights, etc. Is our existing ordinance sufficient?

Jan invited others to add ideas to this list. At the next meeting we can prioritize and assign responsibility. Beth noted that focusing on noise pollution might be most helpful to the Planning Board.

Important Upcoming Environmental Events

- Willie announced that SBB and the NJDEP will be co-hosting a conference October 22 – 24 at a hotel on Rt. 72 in Stafford. Each day will focus on a different topic 1) enforcement 2) Storm water management 3) Non-Government Organizations (NGO).

Jan moved a motion to close the meeting. Brad seconded; all were in favor. The meeting ended at 7:00 PM.

2019 Measurable Policy Contributions

Accomplishments for 2019 are as follows.

Action/Date	Accomplishment
March 12	Claudia attended the Seaweeders' presentation on "Environmental Challenges"
March 20	Barbara attended the Save Barnegat Bay Retreat, Island Beach State Park. Topics included Helping People Understand What they are Experiencing, Visual Storytelling, Bringing Oysters back to Barnegat Bay, Drones, Brainstorming for New Exhibits
April 10	Jan attended the lecture "Landscaping in a Shore Community" in Point Pleasant Beach.
April 27	Claudia handed out tree seedling to residents.
June 8	Jan and Barbara participated in the Barnegat Bay Blitz.