



August 12, 2019

Meeting Minutes No: 2019-08

## MANTOLOKING ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Attendance:

MEC Member	Present?
Jan O'Malley, Chair	Yes
Brad Batcha (Borough Council Liaison)	Yes
Denise Boughton (Planning Board Liaison)	No
Beth Nelson	Yes
Connie Pilling	Yes
Barbara Turro	Yes
John Wesson	Yes

The meeting was called to order at the Mantoloking Borough Hall at 5:34 PM. Barbara Benz, a resident, also joined the meeting.

**Old Business:**

### Meeting Minutes

- John made, and Connie seconded, a motion to approve the July 2019 meeting minutes as distributed via email on July 11, 2019. All voted to approve. Jan will ask Edwin to post the minutes on the Borough web site.

### Membership Update

- Due to Doreen Duggan's resignation, it was agreed to ask the Borough Council to appoint Barbara Benz as a replacement MEC member.

### Collaboration with other Environmental Commissions (EC)

- Barbara Turro and Jan attended a Sustainable Hub meeting on July 15. This is a support group of Environmental Commission and Green Team members and provides an opportunity to share environmental ideas, initiatives and projects. The Point Beach MEC indicated their willingness to share speakers, etc. Here is a link to their Facebook page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/286400801843944/>
- Jan brought up the idea of creating a Mantoloking Green Team whose membership would be the same as the MEC, since the Borough is so small. MEC members did not see any down side and thought there was possible up side in terms of grants. Information about creating a Green Team is here:  
<http://www.sustainablejersey.com/actions-certification/actions/#open/action/1>
- Jan suggested that the Green Team could tackle environmental projects and qualify for grants. Possibilities include:
  - Climate Adaptation: Flooding Risk
  - Anti-Idling Education & Enforcement Program
  - Animals in the Community Education
  - Grass – Cut It & Leave It Program



### **The Protection and Health of the Land**

- John reported no specific progress on the Black Pines this month, but he said people have been removing trees. He plans to have more details at the next meeting.
- There was a discussion about police car idling for long periods of time. Jan noted that Chief Ferris indicated that, in addition to quick emergency access, it is necessary to leave police car engines running because the laptops take 15 minutes to boot, they could discharge the battery, and the cars carry Narcon which requires refrigeration.

### **Environmental Resource Inventory (ERI)**

- Jan stated that she is reviewing the COMPREHENSIVE CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN for the BARNEGAT BAY WATERSHED document for potential comments and input to the ERI. It can be found at <https://www.barnegatbaypartnership.org/about-us/ccmp/> and comments are due by Aug 31, 2019. Save Barnegat Bay suggested having a citizens committee rather than just one citizen representative.

### **The Protection and Health of the Ocean and Barnegat Bay**

- Jan indicated that the MEC had received one request for assistance to identify native trees to plant. It was agreed to add a link to the Going Native brochure on the Borough web site in the MEC section. The link is: [https://www.barnegatbaypartnership.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/BBP\\_Native-Plant-brochure-May-2017-Final.pdf](https://www.barnegatbaypartnership.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/BBP_Native-Plant-brochure-May-2017-Final.pdf)  
This should also be posted on the Facebook site once created.
- There was discussion about additional plantings at the beach entrances at Downer and Herbert. Jan mentioned that Scott Hulse has access to compost and mulch from the County. He also has some lumber available. He is not aware of any grants. The MEC requested that Beth Nelson develop a plan for plantings at the Downer and Herbert beach accesses. Once we have a plan, then we will request assistance from residents as well as other sources. John pointed out that there are many volunteer native plants available at the power station near his house.
- Brad had visited the Hamptons where they had grocery store baskets at the entrances to the beaches to assist beach walkers in collecting trash as they walked. This was sponsored by Rotary. All MEC members liked this idea and we agreed to see if something like this can be implemented in Mantoloking. Jan reached out to Edwin O'Malley, a Point Pleasant Beach Rotary member, to see if they might be interested in sponsoring this project.

### **Communication:**

- Denise was unable to attend the meeting and thus there was no report. Denise is having some technical issues with setting up the MEC Facebook account.

### **Barnegat Bay Marina (BBM) Variance Request**



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- The next scheduled hearing is on Aug 21 at 7:00 PM in the Brick Municipal Building.
- Brad pointed out that there will be an email coming out from the Borough to solicit comments on BBM's CAFRA application from Borough residents. The initial intent is to cause a hearing to be held.

### Recycling

- Brad had heard from one resident who thought our recycling paperwork was too confusing. He provided a sample brochure from Hoboken whose format we should consider when updating our flyer for next year's mailing.

### New Business:

The MEC tabled prioritization of which new initiatives to tackle due to limited time. Potential projects are listed below.

- Benefits of native plants (especially over impermeable man-made products)
- 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 agreed that more enforcement is the answer.
- 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.
- Noise pollution – what level of background noise is acceptable, e.g., from HVAC, generators, motor boats, traffic, outdoor speakers? Use of outdoor speakers is increasing with the increased number of pools.J

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

- Perseid Meteor Shower tonight (Aug 12)
- Island Heights Sail Fest – Sept 7 – 10 AM – 3 PM; email Tanara Hall <tanaraji@hotmail.com> if willing to volunteer to staff the Sustainability Hub table.
- Ocean County College is offering a Barnegat Bay Volunteer Master Naturalist course this fall. There are 11 classroom sessions Sept 4 – Oct 9, 7 – 9 PM and 5 Saturday outdoor field trips, Sept 7 – Oct 5. Cost is \$299. For more information, visit [www. Barnegatbaypartnership.org](http://www.Barnegatbaypartnership.org). Registration is via [go.ocean.edu/cpe](http://go.ocean.edu/cpe).
- **Help envision Sustainable Jersey's future.**  
As Sustainable Jersey celebrates its 10th anniversary, we invite our green team members, municipal staff and elected officials, state agency and nonprofit partners, and funders to help us envision what the next decade will look like for our state and the Sustainable Jersey program.

- Join one of 3 listening sessions this September:
  - NORTH - **Tuesday, 9/10**, 6:00 - 8:30pm in Maplewood.

Register [here](#).



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- CENTRAL - **Friday, 9/13**, 9:00 - 11:30am at TCNJ in Ewing.  
Register [here](#).
- SOUTH - **Tuesday, 9/17**, 6:00 - 8:30pm in Hammonton.  
Register [here](#)
- The next Sustainable hub meeting is on Sept 16 at 6:30 PM at the SBB EcoCenter.
- Island Beach State Park Beach Plum Festival Sept 8, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
- TR Green Team piggybacks from Jersey Shore Maker Fest – Green Fair on lawn – Oct 12 – there will be an OC hub table
- 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).

John moved a motion to close the meeting. Brad seconded; all were in favor. The meeting ended at 6:55 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.
July 15	Jan and Barbara attended • Ocean County Sustainability Hub meeting #2
July 23	Beth and Jan attended the SBB Annual Meeting