



MANTOLOKING ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION Virtual MEETING MINUTES

Attendance:

MEC/Green Team Members	Present?
Brad Batcha (liaison; Member Borough Environmental Committee)	Yes
Barbara Hood Benz, Chair	Yes
Denise Boughton	No
D’Arcy Green (liaison; Chair Borough Environmental Committee)	No
Haley Kardek	Yes
Beth Nelson	No
Connie Pilling	Yes
Barbara Turro	Yes
John Wesson	No
Green Team Member	
Jan O’Malley	Yes

Utilizing the Borough’s bridge number, the virtual meeting was called to order at approximately 5:37 PM.

Meeting Minutes

Haley Kardek made a motion and Barbara Turro seconded the approval of the March 2020 Meeting Minutes distributed via email on March 27, 2020 @ 12:14 PM.

Green Team Business →

- Barbara B. reviewed some process pointers:
 - Actions to be completed this year, once fully documented should be taken from a status of PLANNED to COMPLETED. This is true even if there is something outstanding that has yet to occur. Once it has occurred, simply update the documentation.
 - The new application deadline is June 14th. Once we have accumulated 150 points of COMPLETED Actions (6/14 being the last date to do so), the application will be submitted. ONLY those actions marked as COMPLETED will be assessed and counted towards our point total by the Sustainable Jersey organization.
- Review of Green Team Actions Spreadsheet:
 - Barbara B. reported that the *Create a Green Team*, the *Environmental Commission*, the *Natural Resource Inventory*, and the *Digitizing Public Information* Actions have all been marked COMPLETED.
 - Once the update policy for the ERI is voted on today, the *Natural Resource Inventory* Action will need to be updated. Likewise, once the planning board lawyer completes his review and it’s distributed to the



- planning board, there will need to be some sort of documentation relative to it becoming an addendum to the Master Plan.
- Brad indicated that the Borough website redesign is still in the queue. While not required in order to meet the standards of the *Digitizing Public Information Action*, this work would certainly improve the usability of the website.
 - Haley reviewed the actions she has been working on.
 - Currently, she has been focused on *Community Education & Outreach* which she'll be finishing up shortly.
 - She will then move on to working on the *Prescription Drug Safety and Disposal Action*, followed by the *Recycling and Waste Reduction Education and Compliance Action*.
 - Jan pointed out that Stacy Ferris has posted about Mantoloking's *Prescription Drug Safety and Disposal* on the Mantoloking Police Facebook page...something that is required of this action.
 - Barbara B. also indicated that she will post something about it on the MEC Facebook page as well.
 - Barbara T. discussed particulars of the *Climate Adaptation: Flooding Risks Action*.
 - She is waiting for a response from the town engineer as to what tool he has been using. Is it the NJ Flood Mapper Tool? Whatever tool is being used, she is also waiting for its output & summary to be published, possibly in the June timeframe.
 - It's likely that the *Coastal Vulnerability Assessment Action* will not be doable this year.
 - Jan volunteered to look into the feasibility of completing the *Fleet Inventory* and *Community Visioning Actions*.
 - As part of the *Natural Resource Inventory Action*, Brad made a motion to approve and Haley seconded the approval of the following policy. It carried with a unanimous vote.

Natural Resource Inventory (ERI) Update Policy: *The Environmental Resource Inventory will be reviewed every five years or as needed by the Mantoloking Environmental Commission/Green Team.*

Version 1 was distributed to the Borough of Mantoloking January 2020 and distributed to the Planning Board Attorney March 2020. Therefore, unless legal changes are required or there has been some change in Mantoloking's environmental landscape, this document will be revisited again in January 2025.

MEC Business →

- **The Protection and Health of the Land**
 - **Japanese Black Pines** – No update. (John)
 - **2020 Roots for Rivers Reforestation Grant** – Given lack of availability of Northern Bayberries, a different combination of plants will be purchased. These plants have been located and the modifications to the grant have been approved. An invoice for



- their purchase has been sent to April. Because of the timing of everything, we are looking at a Fall planting. The formal grant report is now due Nov. 6th. (Haley/Beth)
- **2020 NJ Tree Recovery Program** – There has been no update from the state on this initiative. Given the limited lifespan of the seedlings being distributed, this program will likely not occur this year. (Barbara B./Beth)
 - **Pinelands Preservation Alliance**
 - “Keep off the Plants” signs: Fourteen signs are available to be shipped to us. Haley will ask them to be sent to the Municipal Building address. She will also touch base with Beth to determine what arrangement has been made for their installation. (Beth/Connie/Haley)
 - Educational Program on Native plants: The Alliance is interested in doing a Webinar presentation sometime in May. Haley will follow-up to determine what and when. Once we have this information, Barbara B. will contact Dan Paulus (Bay Head Environmental Commission) to determine if they’re still interested in co-sponsoring this event. (Beth/Connie/Haley)
 - **The Protection and Health of the Ocean and Barnegat Bay**
 - **Mantoloking Police Marine Patrol Unit** – Brad reported that there has been no further update on this initiative. (Brad)
 - **Sea Nettle Polyp Clean-up/Berkley Township Underwater Search & Rescue Research** – No update. (Beth)
 - **Communication:**
 - MEC FB page has continued to be updated. Please continue to send to Barbara B. anything you think is appropriate for posting. (Barbara B./Denise)
 - MEC Representation at July 4th Town Celebration
 - Not clear at this time whether this celebration will be cancelled.
 - No updates on giveaway cost/availability. (Beth).
 - No update on setting up table outside Municipal Building. (John)

Upcoming Events

- ANJEC Webinar: Single-Use Plastics, The Impact of Litter on Habitat & Waterways, **4/30/2020**, 12:30 – 1:30 PM; email info@anjec.org to register
- Shoreline Protection Webinar (Pinelands Preservation Alliance), **4/30/2020**, 6 – 7 PM
- 2020 Sustainability **Virtual** Summit: For a list of webinar sessions & to register, go to <https://www.sustainablejersey.com/events/virtual-sustainability-summit/>. A couple of notable sessions are:
 - Energy Actions to Go, **4/29/2020**, 1 – 2:30 PM
 - Tour Sustainable Jersey’s Newly Upgraded Website, **4/30/2020**, 1 – 2:30 PM
 - Sustainable Organic Materials Management, **5/11/2020**, 1 – 2 PM
 - Advancing the Plastics Pollution Solution, **5/13/2020**, 1 – 1:30 PM
 - Fund Your Next Sustainability Initiative, **5/15/2020**, 1 – 2:30 PM



2020 Accomplishments:

- The ERI was finalized and supplied to Council. A link was established from the Borough web page and a copy was provided to Jane White in her capacity as Chair of the Planning Board. (1/21/2020)
- The 2020 NJ Tree Recovery Program application for seedlings was submitted (1/13/2020) and approved by the NJ DEP (1/31/2020).
- Partnered with Save Barnegat Bay to hold town wide clean-up of bay and ocean areas on 3/15/2020. Sixteen volunteers showed up and 12+ bags of garbage were collected.
- Attended Sustainable Jersey Webinars:
 - 1/29/2020, What's New in 2020, Program Updates: Barbara T. & Barbara B.
 - 2/5/2020, Making a Game Plan for Getting Certified: Barbara T. & Barbara B.
 - 2/6/2020, 2020 Census: Barbara T. & Barbara B.
 - 2/11/2020, Staying in the Game: Strategize Your Recertification: Barbara T.
 - 3/4/2020, Sustainable Jersey, Green Team 2.0: Building Your Capacity & Promoting Your Team: Beth N., Barbara B., and Barbara T.
 - 4/6/2020, 2020 Certification Cycle Changes Webinar: Barbara B.
- The Changing Economics of Recycling Seminar at Rowan College on 2/26/2020. Barbara B. attended.
- Rutgers Cooperative Extension: Overview of NJ's Artificial Reef Program on 3/2/2020 attended by Haley Kardek.
- ANJEC, Fundamentals for Effective Environmental Commissions Webinar on 3/28/2020 attended by Beth Nelson and Barbara Turro.
- Pinelands Preservation Alliance, Shoreline Protection Webinar on 4/20/2020 attended by Barbara T.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:46 PM. Our next meeting is on 5/26/2020 at 5:30 PM.