



### MANTOLOKING ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION Virtual MEETING MINUTES

Attendance:

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

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

#### Meeting Minutes

Beth Nelson made a motion and Barbara Turro seconded the approval of the April 2020 Meeting Minutes distributed via email on May 5, 2020 @ 1:37 PM.

#### Green Team Business →

- A thorough review of all assigned actions occurred. Status of each action has been added to the Action Tracking spreadsheet.
- Prior to submission of application on 6/14, we need 150 points in at least six categories. Based upon discussion of status of each item, we targeted 180 points covering nine categories by the end of the meeting. New actions added to the spreadsheet include:
  - Animals in the Community: Animals in the Community Education (assigned to Barbara B.)
  - Diversity & Equity: Environmental Justice in Planning & Zoning (assigned to Beth)
  - Local Economies: Buy Local Campaign (assigned to Haley)
- By 6/14, all actions that we're using towards our points total must:
  - Be fully documented as to what has occurred or what will be occurring.
  - Marked as Completed
- Assuming the application is submitted on 6/14, feedback will be provided back to us by mid-July. We would then need to resubmit by 9/11. If we're then approved, we will be recognized at the 2020 NJLM Conference in November. If not, we have one final opportunity to resubmit on 11/22 for approval this year.



- It was agreed that the Green Team will meet virtually on Wed., 6/10/2020 at 5:30 in order to “get our ducks in a row” prior to the submission.

## MEC Business →

- **The Protection and Health of the Land**
  - **Japanese Black Pines** – No update. (John)
  - **2020 Roots for Rivers Reforestation Grant** – Until the invoice is processed by April, the plants cannot be ordered. Once the budget is available (middle of June), the order will be placed. A fall planting is still being planned with the formal grant report due Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>. (Haley/Beth)
  - **2020 NJ Tree Recovery Program** – The Program is now moving forward but tree seedlings would need to be picked up sometime between 5/22/20 and 6/5/2020 and then redistributed to the community shortly afterwards. Given the current state of emergency, Mayor White and Barbara B. made a collective decision to not participate this year. (Barbara B./Beth)
  - **Pinelands Preservation Alliance**
    - The Beach Plums donated by the Pinelands Preservation Alliance last year have been planted.
    - The fourteen “Keep off the Plants” signs are being installed by Scott Hulse as time permits on the beach side of the dunes. (Beth/Connie/Haley)
    - Educational Program on Native plants: (Beth/Connie/Haley/Barbara B.)
      - A Zoom Webinar is planned on Wed., 5/27 at 6 PM.
      - Hosted by Ryan Rebozo, PhD Director of Conservation Science for the Pinelands Preservation Alliance, it’s title is, “Protecting Critical Dune and Beach Habitat.”
      - The Bay Head Environmental Commission has agreed to co-sponsor this event with us and have posted a poster at various locations in Bay Head.
      - This event was advertised on the MEC FB page, the Ocean Star (the Fri., 5/22/20 Edition), the Mantoloking Reporter, and the Borough Website.
      - Haley has agreed to provide a brief introduction at the beginning of the Webinar.
      - Barbara B. agreed to repost on FB about this event Wed. morning. (done)
- **The Protection and Health of the Ocean and Barnegat Bay**
  - **Mantoloking Police Marine Patrol Unit** – No update. (Brad)
  - **Sea Nettle Polyp Clean-up/Berkley Township Underwater Search & Rescue Research** – No update although it’s unlikely that this initiative will proceed. They were attempting to get the funding earlier in order to proceed with the bulkhead scrubbing in the spring. By the time the money is available, it will be too late to proceed with this work this year. (Beth)



May 26, 2020

Meeting Minutes No: 2020-05

- **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 4<sup>th</sup> Town Celebration
    - Not clear at this time whether this celebration will be cancelled.
    - Beth has touched base with Denise Boughton regarding potential giveaways. Reusable bags with the Mantoloking Environmental Commission logo were noted as one possibility. It was suggested that Beth obtain pricing for 250, 500, and 750 bags from Denise. (Beth).
    - No update on setting up table outside Municipal Building. (John)

### Upcoming Events

- Co-sponsored by the Mantoloking & Bay Head Environmental Commissions, PPA Webinar on Protecting Critical Dunes and Beach, **4/27/2020**, 6 – 7 PM. In order to attend, go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88358489567?pwd=bHZRN1kybjNSQjF0M2lsTUFBZ0R3QT09>
- Save Barnegat Bay: Meet Doug Tallamy, Author “Nature’s Best Hope”, 6 – 8 PM. Get your invitation at: <https://forms.gle/3zfFuBGq4HbdLjku9>
- ANJEC: Making Green Infrastructure & Functional Stormwater a Reality, 6/3/2020, 12 noon. Email [info@anjec.org](mailto:info@anjec.org) to register.
- ANJEC: Functioning & Flourishing in Unique Times, 6/11/2020, 12 noon. Email [info@anjec.org](mailto:info@anjec.org) to register.

### 2020 Accomplishments:

- The ERI was finalized. 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.



May 26, 2020

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- 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.
- PPA, Shoreline Protection Webinar repeated on 4/30/2020 & attended by Barbara B., Haley, and Beth.
- ANJEC Webinar: Single-Use Plastics, The Impact of Litter on Habitat & Waterways, 4/30/2020, attended by Barbara B., Barbara T, and Haley.
- Planting of 18 PPA donated Beach Plums at Downer Beach access point. Plants laid out on 5/15 by Haley & Beth. Planted on 5/20 by Haley. Ongoing watering being performed by Beth & Larry Plevier.
- KMM Webinar Series – Electric Vehicle Charging Stations on 5/20/2020 attended by Barbara B.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:21 PM. Our next meeting is on 6/23/2020 at 5:30 PM.