



MANTOLOKING ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Meeting took place via Zoom

Attendance:

MEC/Green Team Members	Present?
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	Yes
Barbara Turro	Yes
John Wesson	No
Green Team Member	
Jan O'Malley	Yes

The meeting was called to order at approximately 5:32 PM.

Meeting Minutes

Haley Kardek made a motion to approve the July 2020 Meeting Minutes. Barbara Turro seconded the motion. These minutes had been distributed 8/2/20 at 4:26 AM.

Green Team Business →

- 60 out of 160 points worth of actions were approved as part of our Sustainable Jersey Application for Bronze level certification. We need a minimum of 150.
- We plan on submitting 175 points worth of actions on 9/11. However, given that some of the actions won't come to fruition until after 9/11, it is likely that we will not get approved during this round and will need to resubmit the application on 11/22/20.
- Must Revise Action reviewer feedback and next steps were discussed:
 - Animals in the Community: Feedback indicated a need for two linked education events. (1) Education event during Roots for Rivers fall planting planned for 9/12 with 9/13 rain date; (2) Education event during beach clean-up on 9/19 with 9/20 rain date.
 - Climate Adaptation: Feedback indicated that Final Report needs to be uploaded. Waiting for it to be made public, possibly through published agenda prior to Sept. 15th Council meeting.
 - ERI: Feedback indicates that it need to be incorporated into the Master Plan. Waiting for Subcommittee to convene for Planning Board to review ERI & then eventually meet with MEC and come to agreement as to recommendations. This has all been updated in the action in hopes that partial points will be awarded. **This action has been marked COMPLETED in order to resubmit.**



- Digitizing Public Information: Reviewer gave a couple of suggestions but otherwise indicated we will be Approved even if suggestions are not executed. **This action has been marked COMPLETED in order to resubmit.**
- Improved Public Engagement in Municipal Government: Feedback indicates that "Rules for citizen input" need to be published which has been completed. These edits have been made to the action. **This action has been marked COMPLETED in order to resubmit.**
- Prescription Drug Safety and Disposal: Feedback requested a live link (completed) and a report on the number of prescriptions which is still outstanding from the police department. Barbara B. is working on updating the action.
- Recycling and Waste Reduction Education and Compliance: Feedback requested a number of items: (1) a statement from the recycling coordinator about the number of inspections/violations issued to date (question of commercial vs residential?); (2) upload of visual accepted materials flyer along with when, how, and to whom it was sent; (3) Documentation of at least two (2) times information was distributed to residents on the importance of and methods for reducing household waste. Can include shredding. Barbara B. is working on updating this action.
- Next Steps on New Planned Actions that will also be submitted as part of the 9/11 application:
 - Green Challenges (10 points): Email sent out from Jan to more community members to participate in the water audit. Need 3% of town pop...approx 9 people given approx 300 full-time residents.
 - Vulnerable Populations Identification for Emergencies (10 points): Jan is finishing up this action.
- It was agreed that the Green Team will meet on Wed., 9/9/20 at 4 pm. The intent is to discuss any last minute updates/outstanding issues relative to the 9/11/20 application resubmittal.

MEC Business →

- **The Protection and Health of the Land**
 - **Japanese Black Pines** – As per a communication from John prior to this meeting, he had contacted Lance regarding a police escort but has not heard back. This work will likely progress once traffic in town dies down, hopefully after Labor Day but due to COVID-19, this remains to be seen.
 - **2020 Roots for Rivers Reforestation Grant**
 - *Since this meeting took place, the pickup date & time of Sept. 10th from 9 am – 12 noon has been confirmed. Likewise, Scott Hulse has agreed to use the Borough truck to pick-up from Pinelands Nursery at 323 Island Rd., Columbus, NJ 08022. The plants will be kept in the truck until the next day (9/11) when they will be put into position at Lyman, Downer, and Princeton beach access points.*
 - Haley will put together a poster advertising the planting and educational event. (Completed)



- Haley likewise will create a FB event to advertise the event. *(Completed)*
- Barbara B. will request that: (1) the event be added to the Mantoloking.org calendar; and (2) a blogtrotr be sent that links to the poster. *(Completed)*
- Barbara B. will also request that it be added to the Mantoloking calendar in the Ocean Star Newspaper. *(Request sent but not acknowledged)*
- There is a surplus of \$372.90 that needs to be spent prior to submittal of the formal grant report due on Nov. 6th. *Since the meeting, Beth has agreed to coordinate the purchase of additional 1 gallon plants through April.*
- We will also use the event as an opportunity to hand out MEC reusable bags.
- **The Protection and Health of the Ocean and Barnegat Bay**
 - **Beach Cleanup & Educational Event**
 - The beach cleanup date was changed to Sat., Sept. 19th at 10 am with a rain date of Sept. 20th.
 - The event will commence at the Downer Beach access point.
 - Given our need to have a “program” of two events in order to earn points for the Animals in the Community action, Haley has agreed to due a brief educational presentation.
 - “Learn how microplastics and other marine debris harms wildlife.”
 - Barbara B. will coordinate this event with Scott Hulse and request that bags, gloves, etc. be supplied by the DPW. *(Completed)*
 - Barbara B. will: (1) create a poster advertising the event using the flyer that Haley created for the Roots for Rivers event; (2) advertise this event on FB; (3) request that it be included in the Mantoloking.org calendar & that a blogtrotr be sent out; & (4) it be included in the Ocean Star Newspaper Mantoloking calendar. *(Request sent to Ocean Star but not acknowledged)*
 - **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)
 - Going forward, it was agreed that 2020 accomplishments will no longer be listed on the minutes.

Upcoming Events

- ANJEC Webinar: New Stormwater Rules: Compliance & Enhancement, Wed., 9/9/20 at 6 pm. Signup by emailing Jennifer Coffey at info@anjec.org.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:49 PM. Our next meeting is on 9/22/2020 at 5:30 PM.