



January 26, 2021

Meeting Minutes No: 2021-01

## **MANTOLOKING ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

### **Meeting took place via Zoom**

Attendance:

<b>MEC/Green Team Members</b>	<b>Present?</b>
Barbara Hood Benz, Chair	Yes
Denise Boughton	Yes
Haley Kardek	Yes
Beth Nelson	Yes
Barbara Turro	Yes
John Wesson	Yes
<b>Green Team Member</b>	
Jan O'Malley	Yes

The meeting was called to order at approximately 5:30 PM.

### **Meeting Minutes**

John Wesson made a motion to approve the December 2020 Meeting Minutes. Haley Kardek seconded the motion. These minutes had been distributed 1/10/21 at 3:19 PM.

### **Green Team Business →**

- Sustainable Jersey Bronze Certification:
  - We are still awaiting further information (was to be mailed mid-January) on the certification itself.

### **MEC Business →**

- **Japanese Black Pines** – As reported by John, he is still working with the town to get ahold of owners of property where these dead pines are located. At this time, there are at least five pieces of property that meet this criteria in the borough.
- **2020 Roots for Rivers Reforestation Grant**
  - As reported by Haley, we have received official notification that our final report has been approved with grant funding of \$1,028.13. We were however given the option to either give back \$69.70 (surplus monies from the original grant) or utilize this money to purchase by 4/30/21 additional plants that meet the criteria of the original grant. They are awaiting our response.
  - It was decided that we will utilize the money to purchase additional plants. Haley will respond to the email with our decision.
  - By the end of March/beginning of April, we should know which plants survived. Additionally, because in many cases multiple Bunny Guards were used to protect the larger plants, we can potentially disassemble these and utilize for the new plantings.
  - The order for new plants will need to be placed sometime prior to 4/30/21 in order to meet the parameters of our new agreement.



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• **2021 Goals:**

- Much discussion centered around who was interested in pursuing what initiatives.
- Barbara B. requested that initiative owners should come back to our next meeting with **budget estimates** for each respective project.

Date(s)	Initiative Description & Updates	Owner(s)
Late March	<p>Beach Clean-up</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Would like to coordinate this with Clean Ocean Action (<i>sent an email to <a href="mailto:outreach@cleanoceanaction.org">outreach@cleanoceanaction.org</a> on 2/1 but really need Cindy Zipf's contact information</i>)</li><li>• Coordinate with BHEC relative to joint educational event which could potentially include Bay Head Elementary School students. (<i>waiting to determine date in conjunction with Clean Ocean Action &amp; BB Watershed Ambassador</i>)</li><li>• Haley to put us in contact with current Barnegat Bay Watershed Ambassador, Emily McGuckin, who could possibly provide the educational component (<i>done; add'l email sent to her on 2/1/21</i>)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Educational piece on protecting rare/endangered plants and/or wildlife? Play to strengths of this particular Watershed Ambassador.</li></ul></li></ul>	Barbara B.
Spring?	<p>Resident pamphlet that outlines applicable environmental basics when they apply for landscape or related permits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• With their agreement, to be handed out by Zoning office to residents seeking certain types of permits.</li><li>• Include information on the benefits of:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Native planting</li><li>○ Environmentally sensitive lawns (inclusive of their connection to stormwater management &amp; nonpoint source pollution)</li><li>○ Pool Drainage Tips</li></ul></li><li>• It was noted that the NJ Native Plant Society has a shore branch called, Jersey Shore. Beth sent Denise information on this group.</li></ul>	Denise
Spring and Fall	<p>Publish a MEC/Green Team Newsletter that would highlight environmental concerns particular to Mantoloking.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Time for first one to "introduce" the MEC to the town.</li><li>• Advertise upcoming events</li><li>• Make available via:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Environmental page of Mantoloking.org</li><li>○ MEC Facebook page</li><li>○ Blogtrottr</li><li>○ Mantoloking Reporter</li></ul></li></ul>	Barbara B.
Spring	<p>Create a recycling mailer whose intent is to educate residents on recycling rules/advertise Recycle Coach app.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Insert in Blue Book for distribution or possibly include in on of the Borough's regular mailings?</li><li>• Needs to be pictorial.</li></ul>	John W.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If developed as a postcard, it could be adapted to a sticker/magnet</li> </ul>	
Starting in the Spring	<p>Combined Green Stormwater Management Education with Native Garden Walking Tours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information on rain barrels, rain gardens, porous groundcover, etc.</li> <li>Walk to different locations during different months. Locations could potentially include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beth Nelson and Claudia Larsen both have Native gardens on their property</li> <li>Patty Brand Memorial Garden</li> <li>Kellogg property on Channel that includes Osprey nesting structures</li> <li>John Wesson's property</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Beth Barbara T.
Spring	Organize a tour for MEC/Green Team members of the OC Northern Recycling Center. Potentially include interested residents?	Beth
Fall	Fall mailing/emailing of information regarding environmentally safe pool drainage	Denise
Spring	<p>Add pages to the Blue Book thus leveraging work already performed by others on the team including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recycling</li> <li>Pool drainage</li> <li>Relevant stormwater management topics</li> <li>Native gardening/environmentally sensitive lawns</li> </ul>	Denise
Summer	Host a Climate Change presentation/educational event possibly in combination with the BHEC.	Haley
July 4th	Educational table with "give-away" at July 4 <sup>th</sup> town-wide event.	Denise Barbara B.
Ongoing	<p>Facebook postings on Mantoloking Environmental Commission website.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Generally speaking, in all that we publish/distribute, we should be pushing traffic to our Facebook page.</li> <li>All members of the MEC should be given Admin access in order to post to the page. (email sent to Ed O'Malley inquiring about granting this access)</li> </ul>	All Members

- Unassigned initiatives:
  - Pursue recycling compliance report (from Republic) and rejection stickers being placed on residence cans.
    - Can this even be dealt with outside the bounds of the contract we have with Republic?
  - Explore specifics surrounding bringing back the Mantoloking Historic District
  - Continue to work with borough to incorporate ERI recommendations in Planning Board decision making and ultimately, into the Master Plan when it is reopened.



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- **Upcoming Educational Events:**

- ANJEC: 2021 Goals and Actions for Environmental Commissions Webinar, 1/27/21, 7 PM. (Barbara B. attended)
- ANJEC: Environmental Commission Fundamentals four part Webinar, either Saturdays at 9:30 AM (2/27, 3/6, 3/13, 3/20) or Tuesdays at 7 PM (3/2, 3/9, 3/16, 3/23). Signup by emailing [info@anjec.org](mailto:info@anjec.org).

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:49 pm. **Our next meeting is on Tues., 2/23/21 at 5:30 pm.**