



March 23, 2021

Meeting Minutes No: 2021-03

MANTOLOKING ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Meeting took place via Zoom

Attendance:

MEC/Green Team Members	Present?
Barbara Hood Benz, Chair	Yes
Denise Boughton	Yes
Haley Kardek	Yes
John Mooney	Yes
Beth Nelson	Yes
Barbara Turro	Yes
John Wesson	No
Green Team Member	
Jan O'Malley	Yes

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

Meeting Minutes

John Mooney made a motion to approve the February 2021 Meeting Minutes. Haley Kardek seconded the motion. These minutes had been distributed 3/1/21 at 10:14 PM.

Green Team Business →

- A plaque commemorating Mantoloking's Bronze certification with Sustainable Jersey has been hung in Borough Hall in the hallway outside the Community Meeting Room.
- After much discussion, it was agreed that we will apply for a \$2,000 Grant from Sustainable Jersey, funded through PSE&G.
 - Barbara B. has already started Part 1 of the application. Denise and Haley will assist with budget numbers.
 - Parts 1 & 2 are due 4/9/21.
 - Part 3, which is a signed & dated Borough Council Resolution, is due 5/21/21.
 - According to the Webinar Barbara B. attended on 3/16, multiple projects can be lumped together in a \$2,000 Grant. *(Details as to what projects we're applying for are included in the 2021 Initiatives Table below.)*

MEC Business →

Planning Board

- No new business

Japanese Black Pines

- No updates



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2020 Roots for Rivers Reforestation Grant

- Need to spend \$69.70 in surplus money.
- The order with Pinelands Nursery will be placed shortly for 6 or 7 plants (Winter Berries & Bay Berries) depending on whether they give us a discount or not. Each one-gallon plant is approximately \$10.
- According to Beth, the Bay Berries we planted at Princeton and Downer are doing quite well. The bunny guards may have hurt the Winter Berries when they were planted.
- (As an aside) The eighteen Beach Plums, donated by the Pinelands Preservation Alliance, that were planted at the Downer Beach access point are doing extremely well.
- The final report on this grant is due by 4/30/21.

ANJEC Climate Change Bill Guidance

- This guidance has not yet been published.

MEC Facebook Postings

- Posts since our last MEC meeting:
 - Creation of event and post for 4/17 COA Beach Sweep
 - 2021 OC Shredding Program
 - Pic of Sustainable Jersey Bronze certification plaque
 - Resist the urge to clean-up gardens too quickly and thus affect pollinators
 - Climate Change NJDEP petition for science based legislation
 - Individual impact on carbon emissions
 - 2021 OC Hazardous Waste Program
 - Adopt a storm drain

Updates on other 2021 Initiatives:

Date(s)	Initiative Description & Updates	Owner(s)
4/17/21 10/23/21	<i>Beach Clean-up</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We have agreed to work with Clean Ocean Action (COA) on beach clean-ups scheduled for 4/17 and 10/23.• Barbara B. has agreed to be the Beach Captain for these events. Training will be taking place 3/23/21 at 7 PM.• Advertising has already been posted to Facebook and plans exist for a Borough email and Mantoloking Reporter email. <i>(both completed)</i>• Sign-ups have begun with 8 cub scouts having signed up to date.• The meeting location has been changed to Lyman St. from Downer given Scott Hulse's advice that the Downer Beach entrance may not be repaired in time.	Barbara B.
Spring	<i>Pollinating Plants</i>	Barbara T., Haley, Beth



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Used to support the Monarch butterfly population, they can be planted in the back dunes (goldenrods) and in the borough gardens (milkweed) where annuals are normally planted. After much discussion, it was agreed that we would target doing plantings of pollinating plants in the back dune in the Spring of 2022. Plants could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asclepias tuberosa (milkweed) Solidago sempervirens (seaside goldenrod) Haley will give provide Barbara B. with a budget for these plants. Given that the Sustainable Jersey Grant report is due July 31, 2022, is this a feasible project for the grant? Barbara B. will email Sustainable Jersey. <i>(done)</i> 	
Spring/Summer	<p><i>Environmental Basics Residential Pamphlet.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> After much discussion, it was agreed that this pamphlet would be distributed as following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mantoloking Reporter Facebook and Borough Website Physical version available to residents in Borough Hall (Zoning Office?) Include information on the benefits of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Native planting (pollinators) Environmentally sensitive lawns (inclusive of their connection to stormwater management & nonpoint source pollution) Pool Drainage Tips Denise will provide Barbara B. with a budget for this work. Given the timing of the Sustainable Jersey grant, can the cost of creating & printing of this pamphlet be included? The issue is whether we can proceed with this project prior to the awarding of the grant...Barbara B. will inquire with Sustainable Jersey about the specifics of this timing. <i>(done)</i> 	Denise
Spring and Fall	<p><i>MEC/Green Team Newsletter</i> that would highlight environmental concerns particular to Mantoloking.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No progress to date. Potential topics for the Spring addition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce MEC & the Green Team to the town. Keeping your storm drains cleaned (a message about this was posted on FB) Environmentally sensitive lawns that require minimal water and fertilizer. Native plantings/landscaping Advertise upcoming events Make available via: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental page of Mantoloking.org MEC Facebook page Mantoloking Ready Announcements email Mantoloking Reporter 	Barbara B.



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Spring	<p>Recycling Mailer and Magnet whose intent is to educate residents on recycling rules/advertise Recycle Coach app.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No update. However, this will be included in the projects we're submitting for the Sustainable Jersey grant. • After some discussion, it was agreed that this would be a 8.5" x 11" inch paper with printing on both sides. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Also reformat for inclusion in the Blue Book? The Borough pays for the Blue Book so it's not clear how this would work financially. ○ A sticker/magnet could also be developed. • HOW it will be distributed is still under discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reformat for inclusion in the Blue Book? ○ Include in regular Borough mailing? ○ Mail ourselves? • As per feedback from Sustainable Jersey during the certification process, it needs to be pictorial. Do's on one side and Don'ts on the other side? • Haley suggested use of Canva Software for this project. • 	John W.
Spring/Summer	<p>Walking Tour combining Green Stormwater Management Education with Native Gardens Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No update. • It was suggested that we do this in conjunction with the BHEC. • Information on rain barrels, rain gardens, porous groundcover, etc. • Walk to different locations during different months. Locations could potentially include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Beth Nelson and Claudia Larsen both have Native gardens on their property ○ Patty Brand Memorial Garden ○ Kellogg property on Channel that includes Osprey nesting structures ○ John Wesson's property 	Beth Barbara T.
Spring	<p>OC Northern Recycling Center Tour for MEC/Green Team members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No update. • Potentially include interested residents. 	Beth
Fall	<p>Environmentally Safe Pool Drainage mailing/emailing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No update. • Postcard? 	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"> • No update. • Recycling • Pool drainage • Relevant stormwater management topics 	Denise



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Native gardening/environmentally sensitive lawns 	
6/24/21	<p><i>Climate Change presentation/educational event</i> possibly in combination with other Environmental Commissions from the barrier island.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per an email forwarded to the team by John Mooney, John suggested and everyone agreed that we would like to use C-Change Conversation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> They have what's referred to as the C-Change Primer which is a 1-hour presentation that can be held virtually or in person. There is a speaker fee of \$300. Tentative date of Thurs., June 24th set by team. John M. will verify whether this works for C-Change. Zoom is typically setup by the sponsoring organization. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We can use Barbara B's Zoom Pro Account which will allow for 100 participants and 30 hours max of meeting time OR possibly we can use the same account that the borough uses for council meetings. Barbara B. will follow-up on this. 	Haley John M.
July 4th	<p>Educational table with "give-away" at July 4th town-wide event.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No update. Hand out reusable bags and possibly recycling magnets (covered by Sustainable Jersey grant) 	Denise Barbara B.

Attended Educational Events:

- PPA: Rain Garden Webinar, 3/18, attended by Barbara T.
- Sustainable Jersey: 2021 Sustainable Jersey Grant Cycle Funded by the PSEG Foundation, 3/16, attended by Barbara B.
- ANJEC: Environmental Commission Fundamentals four part Webinar, on Saturdays at 9:30 AM (2/27, 3/6, 3/13, 3/20), attended by Haley and on Tuesdays at 7 PM (3/2, 3/9, 3/16, 3/23) attended by John M.

Upcoming Educational Events:

- Clean Ocean Action: Beach Captain Training Webinar, 3/23, 7pm (Barbara B. signed up)
- Save Barnegat Bay: The Story of Plastic Webinar, April 7th, 6pm-8pm, register at https://www.savebarnegatbay.org/event/the-story-of-plastic-virtual-screening/?instance_id=13134 (John Mooney signed up)
- ANJEC: Social Media Engagement for Environmental Commissions Webinar, April 8th, 12 noon, register by emailing info@anjec.org (Barbara T. and Barbara B. signed up)
- NJ Sustainability Virtual Summit – May 17th – 21st. Sign up for individual sessions at <https://www.sustainablejersey.com/events/2021-sustainability-summit/>



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The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:00 pm. **Our next meeting is on Tues., 4/20/21 at 5:30 pm.**