



April 27, 2021

Meeting Minutes No: 2021-04

## **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	No
Haley Kardek	Yes
John Mooney	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 5:32 PM.

### **Meeting Minutes**

John Mooney made a motion to approve the March 2021 Meeting Minutes. Beth Nelson seconded the motion. These minutes had been distributed 3/29/21 at 4:33 PM.

### **Green Team Business →**

- PSE&G Sustainable Jersey Grant:
  - Parts 1 & 2 completed and submitted prior to the 4/9/21 deadline.
  - Given the need to spend at least \$2,000, included in the submission are the following:
    - Environmental Pamphlet
    - Recycling Mailer and Recycling Magnet (both to be included in the Borough's Oct. CRS mailing.
    - A-Frame Sign
    - MEC/Green Team shirts
  - Part 3, which is the signed & dated Resolution authorizing the MEC to submit a grant request, has likewise been submitted ahead of the 5/21 deadline.
  - Notification of grant awards will be sent in early June.

### **MEC Business →**

#### **Planning Board**

- No new business with the board.
- A discussion occurred regarding Pools which are defined in our Land Use Laws as "pervious". However, relative to their inability to allow water to flow through the soil/sand and thus filter out pollutants, they are actually "impervious". Unfortunately, this is a common approach by Planning Boards.
- Regarding this issue and Pool Drainage overall, Beth and John W. will determine a constructive way to present concerns regarding these issues to the Planning Board.



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### Japanese Black Pines

- John indicated that a lot of residences have taken care of the dead pines on their property.
- A couple of properties still require cleanup however. Have the respective owners received a letter from the town? John will follow-up with Colleen Malvasio and possibly call the homeowners.
- John suggested use of All Jersey Shore Tree Removal for this service.

### 2020 Roots for Rivers Reforestation Grant

- The timeframe for spending the \$69.70 surplus money was not doable and we therefore did not spend this money.
- Haley will contact Sustainable Jersey asking “how” this money should be returned. *(email sent but no reply to date)*

### ANJEC Climate Change Bill Guidance

- This guidance has not yet been published.

### MEC Facebook Postings

- Posts since our last MEC meeting:
  - Offshore Wind Energy COA Call to oppose further sale of offshore acreage
  - Super Pink Moon
  - Stormwater Management Free Webinar from the Watershed Institute
  - Watershed Institute Discounted Memberships in celebration of Earth Day
  - Seven Ways Every Gardner Can Combat Climate Change
  - AmeriCorps NJ Watershed Ambassador Virtual Earth Day Celebration
  - Earth Day Focus on Sea-Level Rise
  - Beach Clean-up Photos (3 posts)
  - Eastern Box Turtles out of hibernation
  - Osprey Migration to NJ

### Updates on other 2021 Initiatives:

Date(s)	Initiative Description & Updates	Owner(s)
4/17/21 10/23/21	<b>Beach Clean-up</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The 4/17 Event was a raving success with 33 participants and approximately 12 bags of garbage collected.</li><li>• The MEC plans on participating on 10/23 as well.</li></ul>	Barbara B.
Spring	<b>OC Northern Recycling Center Tour</b> for MEC/Green Team members <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Beth verified that the Recycling Center is available for tours during the week only.</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The group agreed that Mondays would work the best.</li><li>○ <b>Beth will follow-up with them regarding a specific Monday.</b></li></ul></li><li>• Potentially include interested residents.</li></ul>	Beth



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May-June	<p><b>MEC/Green Team Newsletter</b> that would highlight environmental concerns particular to Mantoloking.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>No progress to date.</b></li> <li>• Potential topics for the Late Spring/Early Summer addition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Introduce MEC &amp; the Green Team to the town.</li> <li>○ Keeping your storm drains cleaned (a message about this was posted on FB)</li> <li>○ Environmentally sensitive lawns that require minimal water and fertilizer.</li> <li>○ Native plantings/landscaping</li> <li>○ Advertise upcoming events</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Make available via: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Environmental page of Mantoloking.org</li> <li>○ MEC Facebook page</li> <li>○ Mantoloking Ready Announcements email</li> <li>○ Mantoloking Reporter</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Courtney Bixby likely has copies of older newsletters; <b>Barbara B. will attempt to contact her.</b></li> </ul>	Barbara B.
6/24/21	<p><b>Climate Change presentation/educational event</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• C-Change Conversation has tentatively been booked for Thurs., 6/24 at 5 PM.</li> <li>• An invoice has been forwarded to us for \$300 which they indicated does not need to be paid right away <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ April Yezzi needs a current W-9 form and New Jersey Business Registration Certificate in order to establish them as a vendor (in order to pay the invoice). <b>John M. will get this information to April.</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• It has been verified that we can use their Zoom account.</li> <li>• <b>Haley will contact various EC groups in the area in order to engage their members/residents: Bay Head, Island Heights, and Toms River.</b></li> <li>• <b>John M. will connect their event planner with Haley</b> to work out final details and share marketing experience. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Potential means of advertising include: posting sign where badges are sold; MEC FB page; Mantoloking Reporter; place on Borough Calendar; send out Mantoloking Ready Environmental alert</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Barbara will contact John Celentano (MYC Commodore) regarding an in-person element to this meeting.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ What additional tech is required to allow for an in-person experience while at the same time using Zoom for remote participants?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Haley John M.
Spring/Summer	<p><b>Environmental Basics Residential Pamphlet.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The pamphlet will be distributed as following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mantoloking Reporter</li> <li>○ Facebook and Borough Website</li> <li>○ Physical version available to residents in Borough Hall (Zoning Office?)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Denise, Barbara B.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Benefits of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Native plants (pollinators)</li> <li>▪ Environmentally sensitive lawns (inclusive of their connection to stormwater management &amp; nonpoint source pollution)</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Pool Drainage Tips</li> <li>○ Irrigation Systems and their impact on the environment</li> <li>○ Not clearing out pollinators in the Fall by not cleaning up your gardens</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>This project is included in the PSE&amp;G Sustainable Jersey Grant and as a result, no “chargeable” work can take place prior to the money being awarded.</b></li> </ul>	
Spring/Summer	<p><b>Recycling Mailer and Magnet</b> whose intent is to educate residents on recycling rules &amp; advertise the Recycle Coach app.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>This project is included in the PSE&amp;G Sustainable Jersey Grant and as a result, no “chargeable” work can take place prior to the money being awarded.</b></li> <li>• The Mailer will be on 8.5” x 11” inch paper with printing on both sides while the Magnet will be 4” x 6”. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ As per feedback from Sustainable Jersey during the certification process, the mailer needs to be a “picture” based. Do’s on one side and Don’ts on the other side.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Both items will be distributed by the Borough in the Oct. CRS mailing.</li> <li>• Haley suggested use of Canva Software for this project.</li> <li>• <b>Haley had already started a version of the Mailer and will send this to Barbara B.</b></li> </ul>	John W., Denise, Haley, Barbara
Spring/Summer	<p><b>Walking Tour</b> combining Green Stormwater Management Education with Native Gardens Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Beth will check with Claudia and the Kellogg’s as to including their properties in a tour.</b></li> <li>• It was suggested that we do this in conjunction with the BHEC.</li> <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.
7/4/2021	<p><b>Pollinating Plants</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Given that this project was not included in the PSE&amp;G Sustainable Jersey Grant request (for timing reasons) and the inherent issues with watering any plantings, it was decided we will NOT be performing a planting.</li> </ul>	Barbara T., Haley, Beth



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instead, we will obtain seed packets to hand out at the July 4<sup>th</sup> Town-wide Event which residents can plant themselves in the Fall.</li> <li>• <b>Beth will investigate the types of seeds we should obtain.</b></li> </ul>	
July 4th	Educational table with “give-away” at July 4 <sup>th</sup> town-wide event. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seed packets and reusable bags will be handed out.</li> <li>• <b>No further update.</b></li> </ul>	Denise Barbara B.
	<b><i>Environmentally Safe Pool Drainage mailing/emailing</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>This project is being incorporated into the Environmental Pamphlet and the Fall Newsletter.</b></li> </ul>	Denise
	<b><i>Add pages to the Blue Book</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Given the complications of budgeting for pages in a Borough publication in combination with the timing of this work, this year at least, we will not pursue adding pages to the Blue Book.</b></li> </ul>	Denise

#### New Topics:

- It was suggested that we advertise our meetings on FB. **Barbara B. will take care of this.**
- Barbara B. noted her desire to setup Instagram for the MEC/Green Team and then use publishing software to post to both FB and Instagram.
- Jan requested that Offshore Wind Farms be added to the agenda for our next meeting.

#### Attended Educational Events:

- Key West Tropical Forest & Botanical Garden's Speaker Series: Butterfly Gardening, 12/11/20, attended by Jan O'Malley.
- Marine Extension Program Seminar Series, Striped Bass Management: Hooked on Science, 4/26, attended by Jan O'Malley.
- Clean Ocean Action: Beach Captain Training Webinar, 3/23, attended by Barbara B.
- Marine Extension Program Seminar Series, Horseshoe Crabs in NJ: An Ancient Spies in Modern Times, 3/29, attended by Jan O'Malley.
- Save Barnegat Bay: The Story of Plastic Webinar, 4/7, attended by John Mooney.
- ANJEC: Social Media Engagement for Environmental Commissions Webinar, 4/8, attended by Barbara T. and Barbara B.

#### Upcoming Educational Events:

- NJ Sustainability Virtual Summit – May 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>. Sign up for individual sessions at <https://www.sustainablejersey.com/events/2021-sustainability-summit/>
- US Army Corps of Engineers in partnership with NJDEP, NJ Back Bays Coastal Storm Risk Management Study, 5/18, 11am – 12noon for OC; let Barbara B. know and she'll send invite.



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- ANJEC Clean Energy Update, 5/19, 7 pm, signup via <https://bit.ly/3tE6QOw>
- Marine Extension Program Seminar Series through Rutgers Cooperative Extension, Hurricanes and the Mid Atlantic Cold Pool: How our regional ocean can protect coastal communities, 5/24, 6:30 – 8 pm, signup via <http://go.rutgers.edu/eatjnrfn>

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:12 pm. **Our next meeting is on Tues., 5/25/21 at 5:30 pm.**