



January 24, 2023

Meeting Minutes No: 2023-01

MANTOLOKING ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

**Meeting held in-person in the
Steve Gillingham Meeting Room, Municipal Building
And via conference bridge.**

Attendance:

MEC/Green Team Members	Present?
Barbara Hood Benz, Chair	Yes
Denise Boughton	No
John Mooney	No
Beth Nelson	Yes
Barbara Turro	Yes
John Wesson	Remote
Green Team Members	
Jan O'Malley	Remote
Peter Andruss	No
Ann Lewis	Remote

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

Meeting Minutes

Barbara Turro moved the approval of the December 14 minutes as amended. John Wesson seconded. Unanimous approval. John Wesson will do the February minutes.

MEC/Green Team Regular Business

Planning Board:

- Two applications for generators on February 3 agenda.
- Discussion about how best to interface with Planning Board. Legally, as per 40:55D-27b, an environmental commission that has submitted an ERI to the municipality shall have an informational copy of every application for development submitted to the Joint Planning Board/Board of Adjustment. We have submitted our ERI, thus should receive the copies of applications.
- According to Beth, the Planning Board is planning on having a public hearing in March as to including the ERI as an appendix to the Master Plan. It will then be voted on in April.

Protocol for EC input to the Planning Board as per ANJEC'S Environmental Commissioners' Handbook:

Before a public hearing, the commission should send the planning board a memo containing findings of fact and recommendations on any application, ordinance or master plan proposal that has environmental significance. A commission member should attend the meeting and read the memo aloud so it will be recorded in the minutes.



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Beth will write up the protocol, present it at our Feb. meeting for approval and then present it to the Planning Board. It would need to be included in the ERI prior to the Planning Board hearing.

Swan Point Oyster Array (*Preservation of Swan Point Project*)

- Jan sent an email with an update.

Patty Brand Memorial Garden Shoreline Protection & Garden Maintenance

- No update

MEC/Green Team Other Initiatives □

Sustainable Jersey PSEG Grant

- Construction/Landscaping Advice for Residents Pamphlet.
 - Barb B. met with Larry Plevier on January 19th. He shared with her information he distributes to applicants in addition to his thoughts on “green” infrastructure.
 - Barb is also investigating existing literature to determine form and message that’s currently being distributed in other towns.
- The final Report is due 5/21/23. The draft of this report will be available in April for comment by the EC.

2023 Calendar

- April 1: Beach Cleanup with Clean Ocean Action; Peter Andruss will be the Beach Captain.
- April 22 (Earth Day): Seedling Distribution from 9 to 11 AM at Borough Hall
- July 4 (July 4th Townwide Celebration and Parade): Setup table during MYC festivities to include give aways (bags, straws, and seeds) in addition to continued messaging as to use of Native Plants and Pollinators to help butterflies & bees.
- Oct. 21: Beach Cleanup with Clean Ocean Action

Input from members and citizens is needed to help determine other events. Possibly a survey monkey?

Barbara B. will check with Edwin O’Malley as to when the Barnegat Bay Blitz is planned this year.

Beth will check with Save Barnegat Bay re: showing their film, DRIFT, in Mantoloking.

2023 Goals and Objectives

The following are the EC’s goals for 2023:

- Pursue re-establishing the Mantoloking Historic District
- Maintain and preserve Patty Brand Garden shoreline and garden
- Support Swan Point shoreline preservation
- Complete existing grant
- Pursue feasibility study for Electric Vehicle charging stations
- Partner with and support other locally active organizations whose goals coincide with ours
- Expand MEC/Green Team education, outreach and membership



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Spring Newsletter

- The plan is to publish and distribute by May 1st.
- Barbara B. requested that everyone come to our next meeting with ideas for articles, beyond the standard articles on recycling that we normally include.
- Ann suggested an article on local environmental trips. Everyone loved the idea.

Mantoloking Historical District

- No update

MEC Attended Educational Events:

- Gardening for Pollinators and Songbirds, NJ Audubon, Wed., 1/18/2023 attended by Jan.
- Advancing NJ Climate Goals with Transportation Infrastructure Investments, NJ Climate Change Resource Center, Rutgers, Fri., 1/20/2023 attended by Barbara T. and Barbara B.

Upcoming Educational Events:

- Environmental Commission Roundtable: Electric Vehicles in NJ, ANJEC, Tues., 1/24/2023, 7 PM – plans are for Barbara B., Beth, John W. and Peter to attend.

New Topics:

- None.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:40 PM.

The next MEC meeting will be in person at the Borough Hall on Tuesday, 2/28/2023 at 5:30 pm.