



May 26, 2021

Meeting Minutes No: 2021-05

MANTOLOKING ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Meeting took place via Zoom

Attendance:

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

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

Meeting Minutes

Haley Kardek made a motion to approve the April 2021 Meeting Minutes. John Mooney seconded the motion. These minutes had been distributed 5/11/21 at 12:15 PM.

Green Team Business →

- PSE&G Sustainable Jersey Grant:
 - Notification of grant awards will be sent in early June.

MEC Business →

Planning Board

- No new business with the board.
- Impervious vs pervious classification of pools:
 - Beth suggested that we obtain a knowledgeable speaker, such as Britta Wenzel (Executive Director of Save Barnegat Bay) to come and speak to the Council and the Planning Board about this issue. Beth will contact Britta about her willingness and availability.

Japanese Black Pines

- John reported that All Jersey Shore Tree Removal ground out about 25 stumps on the south end of town on and adjacent to his property.
- There are a couple of properties on Ocean Ave. (south of the "Asian" inspired new build) that require clean-up. Doug Nelson has indicated that he will contact that owner.

2020 Roots for Rivers Reforestation Grant

- Returning of unspent grant (\$69.70): Haley has been reaching out (email and phone) to Kaitlyn Vollmer weekly to determine how to handle this and has received no response to date. She will try the Sustainable Jersey general number.



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- Timing of removal of Bunny Guards: Beth and Haley indicated that until the plants can fend for themselves and are growing outside of the seams, the guards are left in place. Generally speaking, this takes two or three years. Bottomline, they are not being removed anytime soon.

ANJEC Climate Change Bill Guidance

- This guidance has not yet been published.

Preservation of Swan Point

- Jan asked that this be added to the agenda and is interested in heading up this project.
- As per an article published in the Ocean Star, Dennis Blazak (current chair of the Pt Pleasant Borough EC and the Community Plans and Liaison Officer at Naval Weapons Station Earle), shepherded the creation of the branch box breakwater at Slade Dale Sanctuary and an oyster castle project at IBSP (Island Beach State Park). This project was funded by the American Littoral Society (ALS).
- He (Dennis Blazak) and the NJDEP are working with the DOD, Department of the Interior, and the Department of Agriculture to combine funding for projects such as the preservation of the Swan Point State Natural Area.
- Accordingly, six projects have already been approved for Fiscal Year 2022 but there might be an opportunity for Swan Point starting in FY23 (Oct. 2022)...there is already a "notional" project planned by the NJDEP for Swan Point.
- Even though Swan Point falls in Brick, because it's state property, we have the potential opportunity to drive this project forward and ultimately provide manpower in setting up some sort of natural barrier (oyster castles?) to the wave action.

MEC Facebook Postings

- Posts since our last MEC meeting:
 - MEC/Green Team 5/26 Meeting Event
 - Pinelands Commission Vacancies Call to Action
 - Recycling of Food Scraps
 - MEC/Green Team 6/22 Meeting Event

Updates on other 2021 Initiatives:

Date(s)	Initiative Description & Updates	Owner(s)
Spring	<p>OC Northern Recycling Center Tour for MEC/Green Team members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Beth verified that the Recycling Center is available for tours during the week only.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The group agreed that Mondays would work the best.	Beth



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beth reported that at this time, they are still not doing tours due to Covid. They will contact her when they're ready. 	
June	<p><i>MEC/Green Team Newsletter</i> that would highlight environmental concerns particular to Mantoloking.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barbara has been working on a draft and distribute it to the team during the beginning of June. Potential topics for the Late Spring/Early Summer 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.
7/8/21	<p><i>Climate Change presentation/educational event</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> C-Change Conversation has been booked for Thurs., 7/8 at 5 PM at the MYC for a one-hour presentation that heavily relies on visuals. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upon contacting the MYC to inquire about event space, they suggested Thurs., 7/8/21 which after confirming with C-Change that they could do it, we agreed to change the date. Haley met with Lauren Fasolo (MYC Rear Commodore) and Al Pfeuffer (MYC General Manager) on Mon., 5/24 to discuss logistics. It was agreed that we would use their inside space with all the doors and windows open. Visuals/slides would be difficult to see if we used the outside tented area. The inside space is capped at 70 people. C-Change is unaccustomed to positioning themselves as a vendor (so that we can pay them out of the MEC budget). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> John M. therefore graciously volunteered to simply foot the honorarium of \$300 himself. Required Tech: 	Haley John M.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dallas (C-Change Presenter) will provide a big projector and laptop. ○ MYC will provide the rest. However, we need a larger screen that Haley has volunteered to purchase. ● Marketing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Haley will finalize a flyer which will be: (done) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Posted on the MEC FB page. (done) ▪ Placed at the Beach Badge Shack and Firehouse Announcement Board. ▪ Sent out via the Mantoloking Reporter. (Barbara) ○ Information on the event will be posted on the Borough Website (Barbara) ○ Information on the event will be disseminated during the June Council Meeting (6/15). It was suggested that Haley present this information. ○ Haley will also contact the following organizations to encourage participation among their members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BHEC ▪ Island Heights Green Team & EC ▪ Brick and Pt Pleasant EC Teams ▪ Save Barnegat Bay (Graceanne) ▪ OC Sustainability HUB ○ Beth suggested that she will mention this event at the next Seaweeders Meeting. ● Day of the Event: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We will setup a table similar to what will be setup for the July 4th event. ○ Haley, Dallas, and Barbara B. will show up early to setup everything up. 	
Spring/Summer	<p><i>Environmental Basics Residential Pamphlet.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● This project is included in the PSE&G Sustainable Jersey Grant and as a result, no “chargeable” work can take place prior to the money being awarded. ● The pamphlet will 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Benefits of: 	Denise, Barbara B.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Native plants (pollinators) ▪ Environmentally sensitive lawns (inclusive of their connection to stormwater management & nonpoint source pollution) ○ Pool Drainage Tips ○ Irrigation Systems and their impact on the environment ○ Not clearing out pollinators in the Fall by not cleaning up your gardens 	
Spring/Summer	<p>Recycling Mailer and Magnet whose intent is to educate residents on recycling rules & advertise the Recycle Coach app.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This project is included in the PSE&G Sustainable Jersey Grant and as a result, no “chargeable” work can take place prior to the money being awarded. • 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"> ○ 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. • Both items will be distributed by the Borough in the Oct. CRS mailing. • Haley suggested use of Canva Software for this project. • Haley had already started a version of the Mailer and will send this to Barbara B. 	John W., Denise, Haley, Barbara
Spring/Summer	<p>Walking Tour combining Green Stormwater Management Education with Native Gardens Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beth and Barbara T. will meet to figure out the specific logistics of this event. • Discussion included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It will be open to both MEC/Green Team Members and residents. ○ We’re planning on approximately 10 people attending. ○ Information on rain barrels, rain gardens, porous groundcover, etc. would be dispensed at each location. ○ Locations could potentially include: (in order from top to bottom) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Albertson (John Wesson’s property) ○ Claudia Larsen property 	Beth Barbara T.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Beth Nelson property ○ Barbara T.'s property ○ Patty Brand Memorial Garden ○ Kellogg property on Channel that includes Osprey nesting structures 	
7/4/2021	<i>Pollinating Plants</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beth found a couple of websites that sell seeds. • 200 small packets of pollinating seeds cost approximately \$.70/packet. • Beth will follow-up on their purchase for giving away at the July 4th Town-wide Event. 	Barbara T., Haley, Beth
July 4th	Educational table with “give-away” at July 4 th town-wide event. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seed packets and reusable bags will be handed out. • No further update. 	Denise Barbara B.
10/23/21	<i>Beach Clean-up</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No update. 	Barbara B.

New Topics:

- None.

Attended Educational Events:

- NJ Sustainability Virtual Summit – May 17th – 21st. Sessions attended:
 - 5/17, A Look At Where We Are and the Road Ahead (Barbara B.)
 - 5/18, Enhance Community Water Resources Through Water Gold (Barbara B.)
 - 5/18, Education for Climate Change: A Nonpartisan Primer (John M.)
 - 5/19, Climate Interpreter: Best Practices for Talking About Climate Change (John M.)
 - 5/20, Show Me the Data! (John M.)
- US Army Corps of Engineers in partnership with NJDEP, NJ Back Bays Coastal Storm Risk Management Study, 5/18, 11am – 12noon for OC; attended by Barbara B. and Barbara T.
- ANJEC Clean Energy Update, 5/19, 7 pm, attended by Barbara B and John M.
- 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, attended by Jan.

Upcoming Educational Events:

- Marine Extension Program Seminar Series through Rutgers Cooperative Extension, 2021 Coastal Stewardship Course, Tuesdays 6/29 – 8/31, 7 – 9pm, register at <https://go.rutgers.edu/tzanbds8>
- Marine Extension Program Seminar Series through Rutgers Cooperative Extension, Ecology and Fisheries Use of Sand Features Off NJ and NY, 6/28, 6:30 – 8pm, register at <https://go.rutgers.edu/eatjnrfn>



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The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:03 pm. **Our next meeting is on Tues., 6/22/21 at 5:30 pm.**