



January 23, 2024

Meeting Minutes No: 2024-01

## **MANTOLOKING ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

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

Attendance:

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

The meeting was called to order at approximately 5:40 PM. A quorum was present.

### **Meeting Minutes**

Barbara B. made a motion that the November minutes be approved, John W. seconded. The minutes were approved. Barbara B. will submit them to the Borough Clerk. John W. volunteered to create the February minutes.

### **MEC/Green Team Regular Business**

#### **MEC Membership**

There was a discussion of MEC membership appointments, terms of office, and how to fill the Chair vacancy. Barbara B. was appointed to the MEC in the 2024 Reorganization meeting. Barbara B. will request confirmation from the Borough Clerk as to status.

#### **DEP/Planning Board**

- John Wesson, now Vice Chair of the Planning Board, communicated that the Planning Board is beginning to review the ERI including the recommendation for the protocol between the MEC and Planning Board regarding communication between the two. This matter is expected to be an agenda item early 2024.
- John W. reported that there were no new variances of interest to the MEC.



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### **Preservation of Swan Point Project**

Jan O'Malley reported that she had been in touch with Jen Clayton, the Superintendent of Island Beach State Park. Swan Point falls under her area of responsibility. She has asked for a meeting between the Brick Engineer, representatives of MEC and herself to determine if there is a way forward to reduce erosion and/or restore Swan Point.

### **Patty Brand Memorial Garden Shoreline Protection & Garden Maintenance**

There are no new developments as the winter season is upon us. Recent flooding has not greatly affected it.

### **MEC/Green Team Other Initiatives**

#### **Calendar**

- The spring COA (Coastal Ocean Action) Beach Sweep is set for April 13, 2024 from 9AM – 12PM.
- Sat., 4/27 -- Barnegat Bay Blitz 2024
- Rachael Miller of the Rozalia Project (<https://www.rozaliaproject.org>) is scheduled to speak at MYC on Friday, May 24, 2024.
- The fall COA Beach Sweep is set for October 19, 2024 from 9AM – 12 PM.

#### **Spring Newsletter**

- TBD

#### **MEC Attended Educational Events:**

- Jan O'Malley attended the NJADAPT: New Tools and Critical Enhancements webinar on 1/23/24. NJADAPT is a suite of data visualization and mapping tools providing critical support in planning for future climate conditions, assessing climate change related hazards, and communicating risks and hazards. See <https://njhealthadapt.rutgers.edu>

#### **Upcoming Educational Events:**

- NJ Coastal and Climate Resilience Conference in March 14 – 16, 2024 Monmouth University sponsored by NJ DEP
- The NJ Sustainability in Motion Conference, March 6 – 8, 2024, Ceasars Atlantic City

#### **New Topics:**

- Barbara Benz reminded us that we need to address renewal of our ANJEC Bronze certification. It expires in 2025.

The meeting adjourned at 6:17 PM.

**The next MEC meeting will be in person and at the Borough Hall and via phone on Tuesday, 02/22/2024 at 5:30 pm.**