



July 27, 2021

Meeting Minutes No: 2021-07

MANTOLOKING ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Meeting took place via Zoom

Attendance:

MEC/Green Team Members	Present?
Barbara Hood Benz, Chair	Yes
Denise Boughton (via phone)	Yes
Haley Kardek	No
John Mooney	Yes
Beth Nelson	No
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

Barbara Turro made a motion to approve the June 2021 Meeting Minutes. John Mooney seconded the motion. These minutes had been distributed 7/8/21 at 8:41 AM.

Green Team Business →

- Fall Sustainable Jersey PSE&G Grant Cycle: No update has been provided by Sustainable Jersey.
- Recycling Bulletin: Ocean County now has state of the art recycling facilities and as a result, many new items can now be recycled. Barbara B. put together a Resident Flyer which was distributed in the following ways:
 - Mantoloking Ready email and text on 7/27/21.
 - Mantoloking Reporter on 7/26/21
 - Posted on MEC portion of borough website
 - Posted in Announcement section of borough website

MEC Business →

Planning Board

- No new business with the board.

Japanese Black Pines

- No update.
- Jan O'Malley posed a question as to whether Mantoloking should have a Tree Ordinance. Barbara B. agreed to reach out to MEC members overall to determine everyone's thoughts on this topic. [done 8/8/21]



2020 Roots for Rivers Reforestation Grant

- No update. Barbara B. will reach out to Haley and April Yezzi for further information on closing out this grant given the \$69.70 surplus. [done 8/8/21]

ANJEC Climate Change Bill Guidance

- In spite of the 2/5/21 announcement from ANJEC that guidance would be published soon, there has been no update from them.

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

- According to an email from Denise Blazak on 7/28 that Jan O'Malley shared with the group:
 - Four towns are supporting this project to date: Mantoloking, BH, Point Boro, and Brick.
 - Once they know the total cost (at least \$25K), they will then be focusing on identifying funding. DOD dollars remain a possibility, especially in Fiscal Year 2022.
- No further guidance has been provided in terms of how we can support this project.

MEC Facebook Postings

- Events created our last MEC meeting:
 - July MEC Meeting at Borough Hall
 - C-Change Conversations Educational Event
 - Native Garden Self-Tour along with Map
- Posts since our last MEC meeting:
 - Baby Cygnet Rescue from Wesson yard to Mercer County Wildlife Center
 - Reminder as to Climate Change Event along with posting of flyer (separate postings on 6/28 and 7/8)
 - Follow-up Photos from Climate Change Educational Event
 - Reminder as to Native Garden Self-Tour along with reposting of Map
 - Reusable straws and bags being distributed from MEC Table at July 4th Townwide event along with recap of Plastic Pollution Reduction Law
 - JCP&L No cost solar & Powerwall program
 - Explanation as to how long Bunny Guards will be in place at Beach Entrances
 - Butterfly Festival on 8/7
 - Seabeach Amaranth signs on Mantoloking Beaches
 - Research beginning on Barnegat Bay jellyfish and need for docks/bulkheads to participate
 - OC Recycling Update regarding new items that can be recycled



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Updates on other 2021 Initiatives:

Date(s)	Initiative Description & Updates	Owner(s)
7/4/2021 Other Summer Dates?	<p><i>Walking Tour</i> combining Green Stormwater Management Education with Native Gardens Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Barbara T. reported that neighbors have continued to observe her garden adjacent to the beach access path. She therefore has kept the MEC sign and marked shells (designating the names of certain native plants) in place and will continue to do so.</i> • <i>Barbara T. will follow-up with Beth about the potential for future walks.</i> • On 7/4/21, a Native Garden Self-Tour of Barbara Turro's and Beth Nelson's homes occurred from 11:30 – 4 pm. Approximately 10 – 12 people participated. • Ideas as to future Walking Tours: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Information on rain barrels, rain gardens, porous groundcover, etc. would be dispensed at each location. ○ Locations could potentially include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Albertson (John Wesson's property) ▪ Claudia Larsen property ▪ Patty Brand Memorial Garden ▪ Kellogg property on Channel that includes Osprey nesting structures 	Beth Barbara T.
7/8/21	<p><i>Climate Change presentation/educational event</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The event was a raving success with 41 people in attendance.</i> • <i>Eleven people responded to the survey with similar comments: make it shorter, make it more targeted towards the audience it's being presented to, focus more on what people can do to mitigate.</i> • <i>John Mooney indicated that he would like to continue working on future presentations/events on this same topic. C-Change themselves is potentially looking at another version of their Primer which addresses the feedback given to them.</i> • <i>The Climate Change Resource Center at Rutgers also has a great deal of data on this topic.</i> 	Haley John M.
Summer	<p><i>OC Northern Recycling Center Tour</i> for MEC/Green Team members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>No Update</i> 	Beth



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	<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 reported that at this time, they are still not doing tours due to Covid. They will contact her when they're ready. 	
Summer	<p><i>Environmental Basics Residential Pamphlet.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>No update but Barbara B. indicated that this is her next area of focus.</i> <i>The question came up as to what percentage of residents get the Mantoloking Reporter and Mantoloking Ready notifications. Barbara B. indicated she would reach out to Denise and Beverley respectively.</i> 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: <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 	Denise, Barbara B.
Summer/Fall	<p><i>Recycling Mailer and Magnet</i> whose intent is to educate residents on recycling rules & advertise the Recycle Coach app.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>No progress at this time.</i> 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. 	John W., Denise, Haley, Barbara



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Haley had already started a version of the Mailer and will send this to Barbara B. (done) 	
Fall	<p>MEC/Green Team Newsletter – Fall Edition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No progress at this time. Topics to be included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swan Point Oyster Array Police Boat Update New Recycling Rules Pool drainage Protecting Pollinators in the Fall by not “cleaning up your gardens” 	Barbara B.
10/23/21	<p>Beach Clean-up</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No update. 	Barbara B.
Early Spring 2022	<p>Pollinating Plants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Given the unavailability of seed packets in June/July, we will instead pursue purchasing these packets early next spring. Include this cost in the Sustainable Jersey Fall Grant cycle? 	Barbara T., Haley, Beth

New Topics:

- It was suggested that the following topics have FB posts:
 - Mosquito Commission: how to prevent mosquitos on your property [since the meeting, Jan has volunteered to look into this]
 - Follow-up post on sale of offshore acreage for Wind Farms [Completed 8/8]
- Barbara B. was contacted by Kaitlyn Smith, who is part of Vanguard’s Technology Leadership Program (TLP). She was looking for opportunities to organize a beach sweep with a group of TLPs as part of their “Volunteer Day Off” program. It was agreed that Barbara will email her and inquire if her group would be interested in joining us for the COA Beach Sweep on 10/23. [Done 8/8]

Attended Educational Events:

- NJ Climate Change Resource Center at Rutgers: The Cost of Climate Change, 6/24, attended by John M.
- Jersey Friendly Yards: Designing Gardens to Support the Native Web of Life, 7/13, 7 – 8 pm; attended by Barbara T.

Upcoming Educational Events:

- Jersey Friendly Yards: **Designing and Planting with Native Plants: Creating a Native Habitat**, 8/10, 7 – 8 pm, register by going to <https://www.jerseyyards.org/workshops-events/2021-webinars/>
- Marine Extension Program Seminar Series (MEPSS) through Rutgers Cooperative Extension: **Rising Seas on New Jersey’s Coasts**, 8/30, 6:30 - 8:00 PM, register



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by August 27 by completing the following registration form: <http://go.rutgers.edu/eatjnrfn>

- Jersey Friendly Yards: **Soil, Water and Light – Tips for a Successful Garden Design**, 9/14, 7 – 8 pm, register by going to <https://www.jerseyyards.org/workshops-events/2021-webinars/>

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:30 pm. **Our next meeting is on Tues., 8/24/21 at 5:30 pm.**