



August 24, 2021

Meeting Minutes No: 2021-08

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	No
John Mooney	Yes
Beth Nelson	No
Barbara Turro	No
John Wesson	Yes
Green Team Member	
Jan O'Malley (via phone)	Yes

The meeting was called to order at approximately 5:30 PM. A quorum was not present.

Meeting Minutes

John Mooney made a motion to approve the July 2021 Meeting Minutes. John Wesson seconded the motion. These minutes had been distributed 8/8/21 at 7:55 PM.

Green Team Business →

- Fall Sustainable Jersey PSE&G Grant Cycle: No update has been provided by Sustainable Jersey.

MEC Business →

Planning Board

- No new business with the board that would involve the Environmental Commission.

Japanese Black Pines

- John W. reported that properties overall are looking pretty good but that he will continue to keep an eye out for dead trees.

2020 Roots for Rivers Reforestation Grant

- Barbara B. reported that Haley had emailed her and indicated that she had heard nothing back from Sustainable Jersey but she would reach out to them once again.
- Jan asked about removing the bunny guards on some of the larger plants. As discussed during the May meeting, Beth and Haley had 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.

ANJEC Climate Change Bill Guidance

- No update from ANJEC.



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

- According to an email from Dennis Blazak on 8/24 that Jan O'Malley shared with the group, "we are still talking with ALS about how to fund the permits for Swan Point. Note that the NJDEP Coastal Resilience plan will be released next month and should throw these projects into high gear."

Use of Vanguard's Technology Leadership Program (TLP) Volunteers

- Kaitlyn Smith, who is part of Vanguard's TLP, contacted Barbara B. regarding participation in a Beach Sweep in Sept. Given that we already have a Beach Sweep planned for Oct. and the DPW does a really good job of keeping the beaches clean throughout Sept., it was suggested by Jan that there may be the opportunity to put together a Rain Garden in town for the Pilling Family (if they are interested). Jan will follow-up with the family to determine their level of interest.

MyCoast Documentation of Flooding

- The NJDEP in conjunction with the Jacques Cousteau National Estuarine Research Reserve has launched a website and smartphone app called MyCoast. Their intent is to build a database of flooding events (place, date, & time) in order to help decision makers in the state understand flooding in the larger context of climate change and rising sea levels. The end goal is to provide data such that informed decisions can be made.
- As per a recent FB post, residents are being encouraged to post photos of flooding on the website. Both Richard Kender and Barbara B. (for Thomas Hood) have already posted a number of photos along with their respective dates & approximate time.

MEC Facebook Postings

- Events created our last MEC meeting:
 - Aug MEC Meeting at Borough Hall
- Posts since our last MEC meeting:
 - Dump Standing Water to avoid Mosquitoes
 - Woodchuck in O'Malley yard
 - Plastic container recyclable but not lid
 - Document flooding in Mantoloking using MyCoast App
 - Offshore Wind Projects Pose Significant Environmental & Navigational Risks
 - Check out Jersey Friendly Yard's FREE webinar, "Designing and Planting with Native Plants: Creating a Native Habitat"



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Updates on other 2021 Initiatives:

Date(s)	Initiative Description & Updates	Owner(s)
Aug.	<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"> Recycling rules for Ocean County changed in August thereby making this project all the more important. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As a stop-gap measure, Barbara B. put together a brief update on 7/25 that was posted on the borough website and sent out to residents via Mantoloking Ready and the Mantoloking Reporter. The CRS mailing was moved to Aug. 31st therefore moving up the priority of creating this mailer. Given the timeframe involved, a magnet was not created. Likewise, Denise suggested that Barbara B. work with another printing and graphics outfit; she does not currently have the capacity for this work. Barbara B. is working with All Points Printing and Graphics in Point Pleasant and is on track for having 600 copies to the Municipal Building on 8/27 in time for the 8/31 CRS mailing. As per Beverley Konopada's request, Barbara B. updated the 2021 Garbage and Recycling Flyer pdf for the Borough. It was posted online in the Recycling Section of the website. The Flyer itself will be distributed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Via the CRS mailing Sent out via Mantoloking Ready Sent out via the Mantoloking Reporter Posted on FB 	Barbara B.
Other Dates?	<p>Walking Tour combining Green Stormwater Management Education with Native Gardens Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No update. 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.



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Fall	<p>OC Northern Recycling Center Tour for MEC/Green Team members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Update • 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. 	Beth
Fall	<p>Environmental Basics Residential Pamphlet.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Update • The pamphlet will be distributed as following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mantoloking Reporter ○ Mantoloking Ready (501 people are registered to receive these notifications; there were 497 homes in Mantoloking as of 2/1/21) ○ 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.
Fall	<p>MEC/Green Team Newsletter – Fall Edition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Update • Topics to be included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MyCoast Data collection ○ 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	Beach Clean-up	Barbara B.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean Ocean Action has already contacted Barbara B. regarding being the Beach Captain for this event. 	
Early Spring 2022	<p>Pollinating Plants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Update Given the unavailability of seed packets in late spring/early summer 2021, we will pursue purchasing these packets early next spring. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Milkweed seeds are likely what we will seek given that Monarch Butterflies are attracted to them. Include this cost in the Sustainable Jersey Fall Grant cycle? 	Barbara T., Beth

New Topics:

- MEC Meeting Agendas are now being posted on the Borough Website alongside the minutes.
- Barbara B. created a MEC Instagram Account but at this point has done nothing with it.
- Jan noted that there are a number of Crepe Myrtles that need trimming at their bases from Bay Head to Lyman St on the state's right of way. John W. agreed to look into this and contact Brett Radi, our Borough Administrator, to get his thoughts on proceeding with this work.

Attended Educational Events:

- None

Upcoming Educational Events:

- 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 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/>
- ANJEC: **48th Annual Environmental Congress**, 10/19 at 7 pm through 10/22 at 7 pm, register by emailing info@anjec.org and letting Barbara B. know; \$25 pp or max of \$100 for environmental commission members.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:28 pm. **Our next meeting is on Tues., 9/28/21 at 5:30 pm.**