



September 28, 2021

Meeting Minutes No: 2021-09

## **MANTOLOKING ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**Meeting took place via Zoom**

Attendance:

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

The meeting was called to order at approximately 5:32 PM. A quorum was not present.

### **Meeting Minutes**

John Mooney made a motion to approve the August 2021 Meeting Minutes. John Wesson seconded the motion.

### **Green Team Business →**

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

### **MEC Business →**

#### **Planning Board**

- 915 Barnegat has submitted a Freshwater Wetlands Permit #6 request to the DEP. If granted, which would result in the marshy area of this lot filled and in the MEC's opinion, result in habitat loss and stormwater drainage issues. The following Motion was then approved unanimously after a motion was made by John M. and seconded by Barbara T.:

***The MEC has reviewed the application to the NJDEP for a freshwater wetlands statewide general permit #6 for the project at 915 Barnegat Lane (Blk 14, Tax Lot 6), Borough of Mantoloking, NJDEP File 1519-21-004.1 This application is adamantly opposed and we desire the town engineer's assistance in drafting & sending letter of opposition.***

Barbara B. will therefore contact Larry Plevier and request his assistance.

#### **Japanese Black Pine & Crepe Myrtle Maintenance**

- John W. reported that there are about 30 Crepe Myrtles in the DOT right of way along Route 35 (on the north end of town from Bay Head through Herbert St.) that



need trimming at the bottom. As per Barbara B., this topic came up at the last Land Use Committee Meeting and Brett Radi agreed to look into how much leeway the MEC has in maintaining these trees. John W. had already put in a call to Brett and has not yet heard back from him.

- John W. also reported that he had taken down a dead pine in front of the Power Station at the south end of town near his property.

#### **2020 Roots for Rivers Reforestation Grant**

- Barbara B. reported that she was recently presented with paperwork from April Yezzi to refund the unspent balance. This matter can therefore be closed out.

#### **ANJEC Climate Change Bill Guidance**

- No update from ANJEC.

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

- No update.

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

- The Pilling Family was not interested in our assistance or that of Vanguard TLP Volunteers in putting together a Rain Garden on their property.
- Kaitlyn Smith has not contacted Barbara B. again since being given this feedback.

#### **MEC Facebook Since Last Meeting**

- Events:
  - Sept., Oct., Nov., and Dec. MEC Meetings in Borough Hall
- Posts since our last MEC meeting:
  - Spotted Lantern Flies in Mantoloking
  - Dune grass being made available to residents 11/5
  - Choose to Reuse Reminder
  - Single Use Bag Ban starting in May 2022
  - Posting of Mantoloking Guide for what one can't recycle
  - Posting of Mantoloking Guide for what should be recycled
  - American Flag disposal at the Municipal Building
  - NJ Back Bay Risk Management Study link with request for comments



**Updates on other 2021 Initiatives:**

<b>Date(s)</b>	<b>Initiative Description &amp; Updates</b>	<b>Owner(s)</b>
Spring 2022	<p><b><i>Walking Tour</i></b> combining Green Stormwater Management Education with Native Gardens Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>It was decided that we will revisit holding this event in the Spring.</i></b></li> <li>• Ideas as to future Walking Tours: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Information on rain barrels, rain gardens, porous groundcover, etc. would be dispensed at each location.</li> <li>○ Locations could potentially include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Albertson (John Wesson's property)</li> <li>▪ Claudia Larsen property</li> <li>▪ Patty Brand Memorial Garden</li> <li>▪ Kellogg property on Channel that includes Osprey nesting structures</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Beth Barbara T.
Fall	<p><b><i>OC Northern Recycling Center Tour</i></b> for MEC/Green Team members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>Barbara T. agreed to contact the Recycling Center to determine whether tours are now being given. John W. will send Barbara T. the contact information.</i></b></li> </ul>	Beth, Barbara T.
Fall	<p><b><i>Environmental Basics Residential Pamphlet.</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>Barbara B. indicated that she needs to give Todd Morgano, Mantoloking's Construction Code Official to ask him his opinion on topics to be included and talk about the distribution process.</i></b></li> <li>• <b><i>It was also decided that this work will be prioritized below that of the Fall Newsletter.</i></b></li> <li>• The pamphlet will be distributed as following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mantoloking Reporter</li> <li>○ Mantoloking Ready (501 people are registered to receive these notifications; there were 497 homes in Mantoloking as of 2/1/21)</li> <li>○ Facebook and Borough Website</li> <li>○ Physical version available to residents in Borough Hall (Zoning Office?)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Include information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Benefits of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Native plants (pollinators)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Denise, Barbara B.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Environmentally sensitive lawns (inclusive of their connection to stormwater management &amp; nonpoint source pollution) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Pool Drainage Tips</li> <li>○ Irrigation Systems and their impact on the environment</li> <li>○ Not clearing out pollinators in the Fall by not cleaning up your gardens</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
Fall	<p><b>MEC/Green Team Newsletter</b> – Fall Edition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Barbara B. will focus on this over the next month.</b></li> <li>• Topics to be included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ MyCoast Data collection</li> <li>○ Swan Point Oyster Array</li> <li>○ Police Boat Update</li> <li>○ New Recycling Rules</li> <li>○ Pool drainage; back washing of the pool</li> <li>○ Protecting Pollinators in the Fall by not “cleaning up your gardens”</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Barbara B.
10/23/21	<p><b>Beach Clean-up</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Beach Captain Training is set for Tues., Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.</b></li> <li>• Clean Ocean Action has already contacted Barbara B. regarding being the Beach Captain for this event.</li> </ul>	Barbara B.
Early Spring 2022	<p><b>Pollinating Plants</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>No Update</b></li> <li>• 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"> <li>○ Milkweed seeds are likely what we will seek given that Monarch Butterflies are attracted to them.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Include this cost in the Sustainable Jersey Fall Grant cycle?</li> </ul>	Barbara T., Beth

#### New Topics:

- Barbara B. requested assistance with the minutes. By mutual agreement, it was agreed to rotate this responsibility. Barbara B. will write-up this meeting’s minutes and John M. agreed to take care of October & John W. agreed to take November.

#### Attended 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; attended by Jan & John M.



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- Jersey Friendly Yards: **Soil, Water and Light – Tips for a Successful Garden Design**, 9/14, 7 – 8 pm; attended by Barbara T.
- US Army Corps of Engineers, Philadelphia District & Marine Design Center: **NJ Back Bays Coastal Storm Risk Management Study Webinar**, 9/21, 1-2:30 pm; attended by Barbara B.

**Upcoming Educational Events:**

- ANJEC: **48th Annual Environmental Congress**, 10/19 at 7 pm through 10/22 at 7 pm, register by emailing [info@anjec.org](mailto:info@anjec.org) and letting Barbara B. know; \$25 pp or max of \$100 for environmental commission members. John M. & Barbara B. registered to date.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:53 pm. **Our next meeting is on Tues., 10/26/21 at 5:30 pm.**