



November 30, 2021

Meeting Minutes No: 2021-11

MANTOLOKING ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Meeting held at Mantoloking Borough Hall

Attendance:

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

The meeting was called to order at approximately 5:35 PM. A quorum was present.

Meeting Minutes

Barbara Benz made a motion to accept the October 2021 Meeting minutes, and John Wesson seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Chairman Comments

Barbara Benz stated that she will be working on the MEC 2021 year-end report this month. She also asked for volunteers to do the minutes for the next couple of months. John Mooney and Jan volunteered for Dec. and Jan. respectively.

Green Team Business →

- Fall Sustainable Jersey PSE&G Grant Cycle: The Sustainable Jersey grant cycle which opens in November will accept applications, with a deadline date of February 11, 2022. There are four grants available. MEC expects to apply for the \$2,000 level grant. Also, the NJ Board of Public Utilities is offering grants, and this pertains to the state's energy reduction plan.
- Jan provided commentary regarding the constant idling of police cars parked in front of police headquarters. Dialogue concerning this matter is expected to continue. Barbara B. indicated that funding for municipal electric vehicles could possibly become available, and Jan stated that the mayor has concerns about the use of electric vehicles in our area as it is flood prone. Peter provided that when it comes time for replacement, ATV municipal vehicles which are used on the beach and around town, could be replaced with electric ATVs. There was also some discussion regarding the installation of charging stations in town with the increased proliferation of electric vehicles.
- Sustainable Jersey Spreadsheet: Jan suggested use of the spreadsheet from the Sustainable Jersey website to stay up to date with activities and subjects pertaining to updating our Sustainable Jersey Actions (animals in the community, electric vehicles, etc.) and working on new ones. Currently the goal is to maintain bronze status.
- Barbara B. indicated that she would register those members of the MEC/Green Team with Sustainable Jersey that are not already registered: John Mooney, John Wesson, and Peter Andruss. Once registered with the site, if they haven't already logged in, they will receive an



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invitation which they need to respond to in order to complete the registration.

- Additionally, the ERI (Environmental Resource Inventory), authored by Jan, should tie in with the Mantoloking Master Plan which is to be updated in 2027.

MEC Business →

Planning Board

- 915 Barnegat Lane – There are currently no updates regarding this property.
- Other Business -- John W. briefed the Commission on the upcoming applications. There are two currently, one scheduled for early December 2021, and one for January, 2022. Each variance seeks permitting for the construction of a generator platform and generator installation.

Japanese Black Pine & Crepe Myrtle Maintenance

- John W. reports that his crepe myrtle trimming project on both the West and East sides of Ocean Avenue is complete. Residents continue to remove dead pine trees as they die off.

ANJEC Climate Change Bill Guidance

- No update from ANJEC.

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

- There are no updates regarding this project. It was suggested, however, that it could be beneficial for the MEC to work with the Brick Environmental Commission to advance progress on this. John W. said that he would get some current photographs of Swan Point if he has the opportunity to row across the bay on a nice day.

MEC Facebook Since Last Meeting

- No Events
- Posts since our last MEC meeting:
 - Happy Thanksgiving from the MEC
 - Contact our local Assembly people about a bill (A.4678) that exempts plastic material processed at advanced plastic processing facilities from State laws regulating solid waste disposal, thus allowing plastic incineration facilities off the hook from these laws that are geared toward protecting our environment.
 - Contact our local Assembly people about the “Recycled Content” bill (S.2515/A.4676) which if passed will create a strong market for recycled plastic and reduce the use of virgin plastic.
 - As of 11/4, Plastic straws only available upon request.
 - Reposting of meeting being held by BHEC to inform public about work on flooding.

Updates on Other Initiatives:

- **Environmental Basics Residential Pamphlet: (Jan./Feb. 2022)**
 - 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.
 - Include in grant application? Therefore, beyond planning, cannot start this project.



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- **Pollinating Plants: (Spring 2022)**
 - Target purchase of seed packs in the early spring.
 - Include in grant application?
- **OC Northern Recycling Center Tour for MEC/Green Team Members: (Spring 2022)**
 - No update.
- **Spring MEC/Green Team Newsletter (Spring 2022)**
 - No update.
- **Walking Tour combining Green Stormwater Management Education with Native Gardens Education: (Spring 2022)**
 - No update.
- **Beach Clean-up (April 9, 2022)**
 - No update.

New Topics:

With 2021 coming to a close, we will move forward with what we want to accomplish in 2022. Barbara B. asked that everyone come to the Dec. Meeting with their ideas as to MEC/Green Team goals for the next year. Keep in mind that we did not spend all of our funding in 2021. The fall newsletter was a success, and plans are for a newsletter to be issued in early spring 2022.

Attended Educational Events:

- The Bay Head Environmental Commission held a special presentation on November 9th to bring awareness and understanding to local residents about the frequent and nuisance flooding that is now prevalent in our area more so now than in times past. This meeting was attended by Barbara Turro virtually, and by John Wesson in person. It was a very informative meeting. Discussion regarding this topic revealed that Mantoloking has similar flooding issues, and has plans in place to address the flooding at the very Northern end of Barnegat Lane.
- Marine Extension Program Seminar Series (MEPSS) through Rutgers Cooperative Extension – **Status and Future of NJ Tidal Marshes in the Face of Sea Level Rise**; 11/29 6:30-8 pm; attended by John Mooney.
- **ANJEC Stormwater Focus Group**; 11/10 6 – 8 pm; attended by Barbara B.

Upcoming Educational Events:

- **Make Your Town EV Friendly: New Statewide Model EV Ordinance** presented by Sustainable Jersey; 12/7 1 – 2 pm.
- **2022 Sustainable Jersey Grants Cycle Program**; 12/13 1 – 2 pm.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:39 pm. **Our next meeting is on Tues., 1/25/2022 5:30 pm.**