

**Environmental Commission meeting Minutes**  
**June 27, 2024 @ 7:30pm**

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Dana Flynn	Chairperson	X
Eric Duch	Vice Chairperson	X
Lisa Shimamoto	Member	X
Peter Dlugos	Member	X
James Myers	Member	X
Christine Aboulhosn	Member	X
	Member	
	Alternate 1	
	Alternate 2	
Andrew McElroy	Planning Board Liaison	
Harvey Roseff	Council Liaison	X
Fran Frederick	Secretary	X
Debbie Armeno	Recreation Director	X

Called Meeting to Order at 7:33 pm.

**Public Participation** - Bob and Patricia Moschella. Indicated concerns in East Brookwood section adjacent to 206 commercial properties including presumed unauthorized vegetation removal, increased light and noise. Lisa suggested they speak with the zoning officer or Planning Board secretary to review the previously approved plan. They also have concerns about the proposed apartment complex.

**Open Public Meeting Statement**

**Review of Meeting Minutes – May 23, 2024**

Motion was made by Lisa Shimamoto to accept. James Myers seconded.

**Planning Board Applications**

- Veolia Mountain Avenue, tank painting project (being heard 07/18): [SP3-2024-Block 43 Lot 206.02- 8 Mountain Avenue \(Veolia\)](#)
  - Concern was raised on how they would paint the tank: Is there existing lead paint on the tank? If so, how will it be removed safely? If pressure washed, where will the water drain? What is the means of application (rollers or spray)? Spray paint could get onto adjacent objects, how will they prevent this? Temporary tanks will be brought in. How long will they be there and where exactly will they be positioned?
- Cartridge Actuated Devices (CAD), site improvements and adding buildings to the site (being heard 07/18): [SP4-2024-Block 362 Lot 4 and Block 226 Lot 8.01, 40 Old Indian Spring Road \(CAD\)](#)
  - No EC comments
- Gary Niec, for an apartment complex and retail spaces (no hearing date yet): [SP5-2024-Block 41 Lots 90.01, 90.02, 94, 18, 22, 24 Route 206 \(Gary Niec\)](#)
  - Need Environmental Impact Statement and full site plan before EC can offer comments.
- Menduni, for a fence in the front yard: [Z11-2024-Block 337.01 Lot 22, 40 Lynn Drive \(Menduni\)](#)
  - How far back from the street will the fence be located? Will it impede driver view?

### *Reference Maps:*

Highlands - [https://www.nj.gov/njhighlands/gis/interactive\\_map/#/-74.63346/40.87985/3](https://www.nj.gov/njhighlands/gis/interactive_map/#/-74.63346/40.87985/3)

NJDEP GeoWeb -

<https://njdep.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=02251e521d97454aabadfd8cf168e44d>

### **Committee Reports**

- MPMC – Last meeting, June 18; next meeting August 20
  - No Byram representation.
- Recreation – Last meeting, June 11; next meeting July 9
  - October 12 - Hudson Farm Hike
  - Invited EC to have a table at Byram Fest August 24, 4:00 – 9:00PM
  - Debbie urges everyone to sign-up for Community Pass
  - Discussed EC purchasing a higher volume of water bottles that they could help paying for that could be given out at Byram Fest and Scavenger Hunt in September. Will depend on final amount purchased.
- Open Space – Last meeting, June 10; next meeting August 12
  - Tamarack Park may be open for bow hunting.
  - 10-year Forest Management Plan to be revisited.
  - Open Space may be able to provide funding for trail maps. All in favor.
  - Peter asked about Stormwater and Watershed Management Plan but did not receive much of a response at OS meeting.
- Council – Last meeting, June 18; next meeting July 2
  - CO Johnson playground will be upgraded. Cost is around \$600K of which 75% will come from the grant we received.
  - New tennis courts at the Municipal Building (funded from ARP)
  - Reassessment is being discussed for 2026.
  - A new fire truck to be purchased.
  - Noise ordinance is being worked on. County will not enforce if it's not a statute.
  - Natural gas lines are continuing. Cranberry Lake will be in 2025.
  - COJ Field 8 is being enlarged and drainage to be added. Start in 2024.

### **New Business**

- MWA Upper Watershed Special Meeting Discussion from 5/9
  - Discussed reducing road salt use, more landscaping to reduce runoff, importance of septic management.
- Draft Byram Lakes and Watersheds Management Plan - [https://www.byramtwp.org/index.php/articles/draft\\_-\\_township\\_of\\_byram\\_lakes\\_and\\_watersheds\\_management\\_plan](https://www.byramtwp.org/index.php/articles/draft_-_township_of_byram_lakes_and_watersheds_management_plan)
  - Dana recommended everyone should read and send comments to be put into one document prior to the Zoom meeting on 7/10.
  - Questions regarding time period that salt measurements were obtained (lack of snowfall and typical road treatment)
  - Can Princeton Hydro make funding source recommendations?
- National Trails Day Recap
  - A clearly defined path was created, and all had an enjoyable time.
- Avian Wildlife Center Presentation (fall)

- Fee is approximately \$185.00. Looking at November 10 or 17. Fran will follow-up with Casey & Eugene for availability.
- Byram Fest
  - August 24<sup>th</sup>. EC asked to have a table and agreed to man one. Will provide educational info, bags, and water bottles.
- EC 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (October)
  - No update
- Updating Byram's Trails Map - next steps – No update

### **Old Business**

- EC water bottles
  - Peter noted using the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary salamander image on the bottles. Prefers steel bottles over plastic. Cost to be approximately \$1800. EC voted on purchasing steel bottles from 4imprint - Lisa made a motion to spend up to \$1800. Christine seconded. All in favor.
  - Peter will do a workup and get a quote.
- Mission Statement
  - No update
- Mansfield Trail Superfund Site
  - No update

### **Training-**

- NJUCF Re-certification (12/2024)
- 3.5 CEUs completed, 4.5 remaining.

### **Membership**

- Alternate I and II positions are currently vacant.

### **Budget – \$2600.00**

Balance = \$2175.00

- water bottles, AWC presentation

### **Other**

**Next Meeting** to be held July 25, 2024, in-person.

### **Motion to Adjourn**

- Dana made the motion. Peter seconded. Adjourned at 9:50PM.