

# Millburn Township Environmental Commission

Tuesday, May 12, 2020 @ 7:30 pm

(virtual meeting via Zoom)

## MINUTES

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**Members:** Edward Hilzenrath, Jorge Mastropietro, Sean O'Brien, Priya Patel (chair), Lisa Chenofsky Singer, Odarka Stockert, Elizabeth Vollavanh, Absent: Jack Wenzel & Joseph Barbanel. Also attending Martha Callahan, Twp Engineer

**Township Committee Liaison:** Tara Prupis

**Secretary:** Carolyn Scannelli

Call to Order: 7:35 pm

### Commission Business:

- a. Open public meeting statement: *This meeting is being held in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meeting Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6-10: 4-21. Notice of this meeting has been published in the Item of Millburn and Short Hills, and on Tap as filed by the Environmental Commission and on bulletin board at Millburn Town Hall*
- b. **Master Plan Environmental Goals, Objectives and Recommendations:**
  - i. Protect and manage critical environmental resources in the township
  - ii. Improve the quality of life for residents
  - iii. Minimize the environmental impact of the township on the environment
- c. Acceptance of March 2020 minutes Edward Hilzenrath motion to accept, Jorge Mastropietro 2<sup>nd</sup>, with all in favor.
- d. Treasurer Report (LCS) Review report – Balance \$2050. Payment to ANJEC for annual membership dues \$450.

**Public Comment** – Residents Bill and Kate Whalen spoke regarding a petition to prohibit gas leaf blowers. Petition received positive feedback and has 169 signatures. They recently spoke at a Township Committee meeting. Main concerns are health hazard (risk to landscapers and fine particle matter), noise, pollution.

### Communication

- a. Single Use Plastic Ordinance Subcommittee (EH, PP, LCS)
  - Ordinance #2547-19 Goes into effect June 12, 2020
  - New signage for municipal parking lots. Hopeful that township pays for 3-5 signs stating, “Remember your Bags”.
  - MEC has 1000 bags to handout.
  - Sean, Renee & Priya will discuss further and circle back.
- b. Millburn Green Team liaison (SO) René Papanian Chair– no report
- c. Millburn High School liaison - (JW) School closed, no report. New appointment for Sept. 2020.
- d. Millburn Township Green Schools Team liaison (PP) Gaston Hauptert and Radhika Iyengar- School closed, no report.
- e. Pedestrian Safety Advisory Board (TP) -
  - New member Gaston Hauptert
  - Bike Day canceled/possibly September

### Township Committee Report (TP)

- Planning Board Meeting of 5/20 to Interview 6 firms regarding proposal for downtown visibility plan
- Covid-19

### Planning Board Report (JM)

- Wells Fargo Bldg require LEED certification
  - Liz & Jorge will draft a recommendation asking Township Committee to require Wells Fargo to be LEED Certified.
  - Odarko motion to approve recommendations for LEED certification for Wells Fargo, Ed 2<sup>nd</sup>, with all in favor.
- JCPL – Planning Board application for constructing a new wall & adjusting property line to protect from flooding
  - Recommend restoring soil and native plantings

## **MEC 2020 Framework for Action: Built & Natural Spaces; Impact & Resilience, Greener Govt**

### **Discuss**

- ⇒ Stormwater Mgt/Green Infrastructure Ordinance
  - New DEP Stormwater Ordinance needs approval by March 2, 2021
  - Martha Callahan, Twp Engineer compared new and existing stormwater ordinance – identical with some updates in defined green structures and definitions.
  - Millburn is about built out, so things would not change much.
- ⇒ Leaf blower Ordinance
  - Reviewed Maplewood Twp. gas powered leaf blower prohibited ordinance, use as a template with edits and revisions.
  - Based on petition and concerns for immediate health hazards, draft and submit ordinance to prohibit gas powered leaf blowers.
  - TC needs to start discussion at next meeting Tuesday, May 19.
  - Odarka motioned to approve and submit ordinance and Jorge 2<sup>nd</sup>, with all in favor.
  - Priya will submit to TC.
- ⇒ ANJEC Open Space Grant
  - Priya submitted grant application for \$1,500 for native plantings.

### **Announcements/Events/Miscellaneous**

- Next MEC Meeting: Tuesday, June 9, 2020, 7:30 PM  
Location TBD

Adjourn 9:03

Carolyn Scannelli  
Minutes Secretary