

# Millburn Township Environmental Commission

Tuesday, June 9, 2020 @ 7:30 pm

(virtual meeting via Zoom)

## MINUTES

---

**Members:** Joseph Barbanel, Jorge Mastropietro, Sean O'Brien, Priya Patel (chair), Lisa Chenofsky Singer, Elizabeth Vollavanh, Absent: Edward Hilzenrath, Odarka Stockert & Jack Wenzel Also attending Resident Reade Kem; Laurie Ehlbeck – NJ Food Council; and Lauren O'Brien, Pay UP Climate Polluters NJ

**Township Committee Liaison:** Tara Prupis – absent

**Secretary:** Carolyn Scannelli

Call to Order: 7:31 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 May 12, 2020 minutes Lisa Chenofsky Singer motion to accept, Sean O'Brien 2<sup>nd</sup>, with all in favor.
- d. Treasurer Report (LCS) Review report – Balance \$1820.65.

**Public Comment** – Resident Laurie Ehlbeck asked for clarification regarding conflicting language within the New Plastic Bag Ordinance, which goes into effect June 12<sup>th</sup>. 1. Retailers shall/may supply bags? Retailers may supply bags; they are not obligated. 2. The use of polystyrene / Styrofoam refer to grocery store food packaging? The use of polystyrene containers refers to retail establishments in town, more so for takeout.

### Communication

- a. Single Use Plastic Ordinance Subcommittee (EH, PP, LCS)
  - Ordinance #2547-19 Goes into effect June 12, 2020 “Ban Use of Single-Use Plastic Bags and Polystyrene Containers and Reduce the Use of Single-Use Straws”
  - Environmental Commissions has a table at the Farmers Market and is giving out to free reusable bags.
  - As many residents are unaware of this new ordinance, more awareness is needed.
- b. Millburn Green Team liaison (SO) – Table at Farmers Market – promoting awareness for plastic bag ban.
- c. Millburn High School liaison – Priya will reach out to school for new appointment for Sept. 2020.
- d. Millburn Township Green Schools Team liaison (PP) – no report
- e. Pedestrian Safety Advisory Board (TP) - Jorge Mastropietro
  - Bike (and Walking) Event September 13, 8:30-12
  - Two (2) routes 6 miles and 15 miles.
  - Sponsor solicitation needed; one suggestion realtors within Millburn.

**Township Committee Report (TP) - N/A**

### Planning Board Report (JM)

- Former Wells Fargo Bldg - draft ordinance does not include environmental concerns, no LEED.
  - Does include dry well plans, addresses setbacks.
  - Mixed use design with commercial on lower level, residential above.
  - Next Planning Board meeting June 17.
- Going paperless eliminating plans and documents – Priya will speak to Beth.

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

## **Discuss**

- ⇒ Lauren O'Brien, Pay UP Climate Polluters NJ
  - Presentation on climate polluters
  - Hold climate polluters accountable
  - Suggested passing a resolution to get the attorney general to take legal action to hold fossil fuel industry accountable for their fair share of climate change.
  - Sending Priya information
- ⇒ Leaf blower Ordinance
  - Not resounding support; modify too restrictive, hard to enforce
  - Joe Barbanel will review
  - Amend by late summer/fall

## **Announcements/Events/Miscellaneous**

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

Adjourn 8:27

Carolyn Scannelli  
Minutes Secretary