

## Millburn Township Environmental Commission

Tuesday July 9, 2019 7:30 pm

Cora Hartshorn Arboretum

Minutes (revised)

Members(*liaison*):

Sarah Rosenthal, Vaclav E. Benes, *Dianne Eglow*, Lisa Chenofsky Singer, Joseph Barbanel, Edward Hilzenrath, Elizabeth Vollavanh, Priya Patel, Jorge Mastropietro

Secretary: Brian Zhu

Present: Vaclav E. Benes, Tara Prupis (in place of *Dianne Eglow*), Lisa Chenofsky Singer, Elizabeth Vollavanh, Priya Patel, Edward Hilzenrath, Joseph Barbanel

Absent: Sarah Rosenthal, *Dianne Eglow*, Jorge Mastropietro

### 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 as filed by the Environmental Commission and on bulletin board at Millburn Town Hall*
- b. **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. Meeting called to order
  - a. 7:34 PM EST
- d. Acceptance of June 2019 minutes.
  - a. Approved with edits.
- e. Oath of Office: Marc Matsil
- f. Treasurers Report (Chenofsky Singer) Reimbursements
  - a. New change from last month- \$2075 in the account, only paid ANJEC so far
  - b. No other expenses yet this year. Currently pending expenses:
    - i. Reimbursement of \$131.68
    - ii. Should be receiving \$130 made out to the township via grant. Reimbursement of \$130 should be made out to Elizabeth Vollavanh
- g. Environmental Club President: Jack Wenzel. Secretary: Somil Agarwal. Start in September

### Public Comment

- Rene Papanian, helped with the Plastics Resolution
- Boy Scouts, completing Eagle Scout requirement
  - o Morgan Lomax, Bridget Lomax, Katie Cannon, Kathleen Lomax

**Township Committee:** Current Project Report (Eglow)

### Planning Board (Mastropietro)

- a. Site Plan Review
  - i. Application to planning board from B’Nai Jeshurun to replace their lights with LED lights
- b. Parking Demand Management (Eglow)

### Communication

- a. Single Use Plastic Resolution (Chenofsky, Hizenrath and Patel)
- Motion to adopt the resolution and propose it to the township committee
    - Barbanel: the resolution itself is excellent, the work to be done is in working with the commerce community to put it into effect.
    - Adopted by unanimous consent.
    - Next step is to pass the resolution on to Eglow to schedule with the township committee.

- Paparian: One committee meeting on July 16th and one in August. Vollavanh will propose the resolution to the committee, and Egglow will schedule a date to present it to the township committee for no more than 5 minutes to bulletpoint the highlights of the solution and succinctly say what the outcome of the proposal will be, how the resolution was arrived at, and what the three items are and why they were selected.
  - The township committee will have received the resolution ahead of time. If a majority agree to approve it, it will be submitted to the township committee attorney.
  - The township committee and attorney should also be supplied with working ordinances from other towns in New Jersey.
  - The 5 cent fee on paper bags cannot go to the township for legal reasons, it must go to a different actor.
    - Vollavanh: The township is only allowed to collect property taxes.
  - Should collect information regarding support of the resolution, including an online petition. This should be used as proof that there is public support
    - Can submit the resolution itself first, and then submit any background supporting materials at a slightly later date
  - There will not be an opportunity for public comment specifically on the resolution at the first reading.
  - At the second reading 30 days later, there will be an opportunity for public comment. Then there will be a vote on whether to adopt the resolution.
  - Vollavanh: emphasize that the Environmental Commission is seeking for the resolution to become an ordinance, as the resolution itself is not binding.
  - Prupis: Should have answers to questions about what is going on at the state level, and how enforcement for the ordinance will occur.
    - Vollavanh: the Environmental Commission is not necessarily in charge of enforcement, but there are enforcement proposals in the resolution.
    - Hizenrath, Chenofsky Singer, Paparian: the grace period is not in the resolution because that is not in the purview of the Environmental Commission, but there is data from other towns on what a grace period should look like
  - Prupis: Unlikely that everything will be ready to be scheduled for the first reading in July, but should shoot for the first reading and presentation to be done in August.
    - If there is not enough support for it, the resolution will not be sent to the attorney to be worded into an ordinance.
  - Prupis: is giving a report on Tuesday, so will report to the township commission that the Environmental Commission has unanimously approved the resolution

- b. Green Team Liaison (Patel)
- c. MHS Liaison (Rosenthal)
- d. Millburn Township Green Schools (Patel)
- e. Green Faith
- f. Other

#### **Water**

- a. Rahway Watershed Report (Benes)
- b. Taylor Park Rain Garden Survey (Benes and Vollavanh)
- c. South Mountain Conservancy Grant
- d. Other

#### **Sustainability**

- a. Community Aggregation Proposal
- c. Update Lighting Ordinance
- d. Wildflower Meadow (Vollavanh). ANJEC Grant Award Plan/Planting, Maintenance and Final Report
- e. Other

#### **Transportation**

- a. Safe routes to School- Silver rating
- b. Bike and Walk Millburn
- c. Electric Charging Stations
- d. Other

Meeting adjourned at: 8:18 PM EST

**Next MEC Meeting: Tuesday September 10, 2019 Millburn Town Hall**

**Events:**

**July 12 Duke Farms FireFly Festival**

1. Nobody does it alone,
2. It takes a long time
3. It's worth it.