

Borough of Hightstown
Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes
August 27, 2019

Meeting Date and Time: August 27, 2019 at 7:00 PM

Meeting Location: Hightstown Housing Authority Conference Room

Attendees: Keith LePrevost (Chair)
Yan Troizier (Vice Chair)
Todd Frantz (Secretary)
David Zaiser (Shade Tree Official)
Donna LePrevost
Gary Grubb
Joe Cicalese (Planning Board Liaison)
Leigh Isleib (Meadow Lakes Liaison)
Susan Bluth (Council Liaison)

Also in Attendance: Sandra Johnson (Borough Resident)

Absent: Barbara Jones
Josh Jackson
Lia Mastropolo (Watershed Institute)
Jennifer Morgan (Peddie School Liaison)

Open Public Meetings Act Statement: In compliance with Chapter 213 of the Public Laws of 1975, notice of this meeting was given by way of the Annual Notice published in the Trenton Times and Princeton Packet by the Borough Clerk and posted on the Borough website.

Approval of Agenda: David Zaiser motioned to approve the agenda as amended which was seconded by Donna LePrevost.

Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting Minutes of June 25, 2019. David motioned to approve the minutes as amended which was seconded by Donna.

Shade Tree Matters:

- a. **Shade Tree Official's Report:** A cherry tree at 200 South Main Street is recommended for removal.

Parks and Recreation:

- a. **Bridge update** – Project incurred delays, work is progressing on below grade features. Estimated completion date is the end of October.

Borough Council Liaison:

- a. **Letter from Tree Commissioner:** David submitted a letter to JCP&L regarding the removal of Borough street trees. This will be added to a future Borough Council meeting agenda.
- b. **2019 Budget** - Susan will ask George Lang if EC can set up an escrow or otherwise set money aside from the current budget year into an account to allow tree planting in early spring before the 2020 budget approvals.

Planning Board Update:

- a. The Planning Board approved the Meadow Lakes construction plans for the new building during the last meeting.
- b. No update on Lincoln/Hagemont/Rocky Brook project.

Sustainable Jersey (SJ) Update:

- a. We are currently silver certified which lasts until 2021.

Grants and Funding Update:

- a. NJ Urban and Community Forestry Program – No updates on the award. David and Yan are working on a plan for pruning and planting Borough trees during the fall of 2019. If the grant is not awarded to Hightstown, this work will be done within the EC budget.

New Business:

- a. Mannino's – Bank and Main construction: Property has been cleared of trees. Plans have not been submitted to or finalized by Planning Board.
- b. Stockton Street project – no plans to address trees have been made available.

Plan Review:

- a. Microbrewery – New plans have been submitted to Planning Board but not yet voted on. Plan for storm water management is different in the new plan than what was included in the original plan. Although building is already under construction, EC will review the plans and provide comments.

Liaison Update:

- a. Meadow Lakes: Organic Conversions – approximately \$6K a year can be saved through recycling. Contracting is moving forward. Spring Point is also considering a food waste recycling program.
- b. Peddie School: No update.
- c. Hightstown High School: No update.
- d. Watershed Institute: No update.

Correspondents, Conferences and Workshops:

- a. ANJEC Environmental Conference from 9 to 4 on Friday October 4.
- b. 94th Annual Shade Tree Federation Conference – October 24-25, 2019

Calendar:

- a. 10/12/19 – Harvest Fair
 - i. Theme – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. Master Gardeners will have Home Composting as a theme.
 - ii. Joe is checking to verify the peddle boats are registered for the Environmental Commission.

Next Meeting: The next regular EC meeting is Tuesday, September 24, 2019, 7:00 PM.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned.