

## MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF

### THE HIGHTSTOWN ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

**Meeting Date and Time:** April 25, 2023 at 7pm

**Meeting Location:** Held virtually through Zoom

**Attendees:** Todd Frantz (Council Liaison)  
Tom Muza (Chair)  
Gary Grubb  
David Zaiser (Shade Tree Official)  
Henry Wang (Secretary)  
Shani Peretz (Peddie School Liaison)  
Joseph Studholme (Vice Chair)  
Pri Oliveira (Watershed Institute)  
Michael Bollentin

**Absent:** John Laudenburger (Planning Board Liaison)  
Lucia Middleton (Watershed Institute)

**Open Public Meeting 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:** Agenda was approved

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:** Regular meeting minutes from March 28, 2023 were approved.

**Shade Tree Matters:** David is working on a plan for the street trees on Main. David to issue a report to the vendor and the State to replace at least 5 trees. A Linden tree was planted in Dawe's park. Gary will obtain a gator bag for the tree.

**New Business:**

- Youth Leadership Internship Update: the program is about halfway completed. Students are working on their presentations. Suggestion by Pri Oliveira that in the future maybe have the students working on some ongoing initiatives/projects by the EC.
- Monthly Meeting Schedule: Planning for May's Meeting, in person at the Historical Society. Todd is coordinating with Dimitri.
- Complete Streets Committee – Mobility Plan Implementation (recurring item on agenda). Meeting will happen tomorrow, Henry to add some notes to the agenda and email the group.
- Sustainable Jersey (recurring item on the agenda): Tom will update.

**Parks and Recreation:** Rocky Brook community garden is underway. Gary added some sedums around a stump over at Association Park.

**Planning Board Update:** Planning board liaison not present

**Grants and Funding Update:** Per update from Todd, all commissions are receiving the same as last year. There will be 2 budget meetings in May and are open to the public.

**Plan Review:** No reviews this month.

**Liaison updates:**

- The Watershed Institute – none
- Meadow Lakes – N/A
- Peddie School – volunteers planted about 900 pollinator plants at Meadow Lakes. They are interested in possibly installing floating wetlands in Peddie Lake. Shani can ask Watershed for assistance on how to approach.
- Hightstown High School – N/A

**Correspondence:** No Correspondence

**Conferences and Workshops:** no updates

**Calendar:**

- Saturday April 22, 2023: Stream Clean Up was a success. Tom had emailed the members of the EC with the detailed breakdown of how much trash was picked up and how much was shredded. As noted above a tree was donated by Growing Concern, planted with Mayor in attendance at Dawe's Park.
- Tuesday May 16, 2023: Youth Leadership Presentation. Tom will invite Council and the Mayor. Tom and EC members to help set up. Confirmed with Peggy to be at the firehouse. 7-8 pm.

**Update from Todd:**

- Todd talked to Matt Morgan of the planning board. He said that in 2024 the master plan for the borough is up for review. They are beginning to gather info beginning next month. Planning Board will meet with different boards and commissions about this and we can provide feedback.

**Adjournment**