



**Virtual Meeting  
Hawthorne Environmental Commission – Minutes  
March 10, 2022**

**Call to Order:** Rayna Laiosa, Mary Mahon, Pat MacDonnell, Robert Meier, Lisa DeVos and Holly Cowen, Carol Robertson, Dawn Zagatta, and Mike Mariani  
Guests: Maureen Cook, Rita Pinelli, and Craig Cayetano 8:20 pm

**Join Zoom Meeting**

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- I. Attendance and Acceptance of Meeting –
  - a. Environmental Commission/ Minutes – February 10, 2022  
1<sup>st</sup> Motion: Robert Meier    2<sup>nd</sup> Motion: Mac Donnell
- II. Planning Board Report – Report by Robert Meier
  - a. 542 Goffle Road – 3 Ronson Project – February 15, 2022 public hearing;  
residents are asked to review the planning documents at Boro Hall; 117 units;  
Next Meeting: April 19, 2022
- III. Kids Corner Newsletter Discussion postponed
  - a. Moving Newsletter to Quarterly instead of Monthly – 1) February – Done 2)  
April/May, 3) June/July/August, and 4) Sept/Oct/Nov – Bring ideas/thoughts to  
next meeting in January 2022; April/May Topic???
- IV. Green Team Meeting

- a. March 28, 2022 Virtual Green Team – Invitation to All Gardeners to Participate  
Pat sent invitation for gardeners 7:30 Commissioners at 8PM
  - b. Hop the Shop – Partnering with Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce – April 2022  
Chamber Board approved program, Meg will be requesting the local business for participation. More details will follow.
  - c. Next Green Team Meeting: Monday March 28, 2022 at 7:30 pm
- V. Neighborhood Preservation Program (NPP) – Pat MacDonald – Update – Council Meeting March 16, 2022 – NPP Team will present the Approved Plan to Mayor & Council. All are invited to attend.
- VI. 30<sup>th</sup> Cel-Earth-Bration Event – Saturday April 30, 2022 at the Pool Complex; Rain Date: Saturday May 7, 2022; 10:00 am to 2:00 pm
- a. Theme – **Reduce Waste Put Plastic In Its Place**
  - b. All Participants Bring own tables and chairs, tents optional
  - c. Reusable Bags Purchased– Maureen Cook – Recycle, Reduce, and Reuse Logo Borough of Hawthorne Lime color bags with white lettering – purchased additional 500 bags (2020 purchased a total of 500 bags) Plan to pass out 800 bags
  - d. T-Shirts – 2020 purchased 150 T-shirts – Reduce Waste Put Plastic In Its Place
  - e. NJ Clean Community – Post Card Bulletin Board for Plastic Bag Ban to display at Event; Maureen will follow up;
  - f. Focus - Vendors educational and selling environmental products- Craig will research for environmental product vendors
  - g. Vendors/Exhibitors – 2019 – Conducted a Scavenger Hunt??? – Past Participants at Cel-Earth-Bration
    - 1. Hawthorne Shade Tree Commission – Confirmed, Tree Sapling giveaways,
    - 2. Hawthorne Historical Society – Confirmed
    - 3. Veronica MacDonald Ditko - promoting and selling her first book entitled “A Rock Solid History of Hawthorne, New Jersey.” - Confirmed
    - 4. Chets Scents by Donna Johnson - selling soy candles to purchase Mary to contact
    - 5. Reimagined Designs by Stephanie Tonnesen Hornback - selling one of a kind, earth friendly housewares and accessories Mary to reach out
    - 6. Color & Whims – Not coming
    - 7. Passaic County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PCSPCA) Mary to reach out
    - 8. How to Make Your Own Bee Habitat by Mary Kostus - Replacement being looked for from Holly or Lisa
    - 9. Hawthorne Education Foundation (2016) ? - No
    - 10. Bergen County Silent Flyers (2015) No
    - 11. Local Hawthorne dentist Dr. Toni Anne Raymond, will be on hand talking about proper dental care (2014) No
    - 12. Trashion Show (2017 – 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary) No
    - 13. Then and Now (2013) No
  - h. Face painting and tattoos area – Need Volunteers Rayna to contact the Head of the Hawthorne High School Cheerleaders – Kacie Schrettner
  - i. Craft Workshop Table – Mary Confirmed
  - j. Entertainment -Hired Snakes-N-Scales for two (2) shows on April 30, 2022; Dawn will send information to Maureen and me to Confirm the dates and times. Also to issue the Purchase Order to vendor. Request updated business certificate information; Completed. Two shows 11AM and 12:30PM

- k. Another Suggestion from Craig – Lokairose.com – Passaic County hired this company; Craig will reach out to them to see if they are interested in attending the event by having a booth.
  - l. Music – Matty Z –. – Confirmed
  - m. Food – Hawthorne Boys & Girls Club – water, soda, & snacks; Rayna to reach out to John Bertollo Pappy’s; previously Flo’s market – Confirmed Pappy’s Participation
  - n. HHS Ecology Club – Dirty Dirt and Toxic Punch – Dawn will contact them – No longer exist; Alternatively Dawn will reach out to SHARE
  - o. Lincoln Middle School – Games – Dawn will contact them the principal; new staff
  - p. Hawthorne School System Wellness Rayna to contact Christine Weigert
  - q. Stigma Free Dawn contacting Paster Jim Bushoven
  - r. Wellness Pat to reach out to Mike at St Joeseph’s Health
  - s. Park Ave BMW – Electric Vehicle Craig confirmed
  - t. Bird Walks to the 8 Acre Woods – Partnering with Hawthorne Historical and Shade Tree Commission – identify historical references and trees Confirmed
  - u. Access to the Restrooms – Pool or Bandshell area -Maureen followed up Confirmed
  - v. Girl Scouts and Bee Keeper Rita to reach out Dana
  - w. Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts - Rayna reaching out John Manko (Troop #85), Steve Fitzsimmon (Troop #30 – Confirmed) and Kim Michel
  - x. Access to Electric Power – Maureen will followed up Confirmed
  - y. Publicity – Press Release Pat to update, Flyer Mike to update, Facebook, Boro’s Website, Nixle, Electronic Board Police to be notified, Announcement to School System by Dawn– letters and flyers Maureen and Mike to work on lawn signs for pool location
- VII. Bird Walks – Spring 2022 - Virtual Birding 101 Tuesday April 12, 2022; Zoom 7:30PM
- a. Bird Walks at Goffle Brook Park will be Saturday, April 23, Wednesday, May 11, and Saturday, June 4. We will meet at the Rea Mansion parking lot 675 Goffle Road.
  - b. Bird Walks at Eight Acre Woods will be Sunday, May 29 and Saturday, June 18. We will meet at the entrance on Maitland Avenue near the Boys and Girls Club.
- VIII. Sustainable Jersey Re Certification – Deadline May 22, 2022 Lisa to finish Environmental Resource Inventory and meet with Rayna
- a. **Environmental Resource Inventory (ERI)** – Update sections – Contacted Shade Tree Commission (update tree section in Vegetation chapter) Maureen to remind Kevin and Hawthorne Historical Society (update historical section in chapter) for assistance; Alexandra will prepare a document with plants identified in the Goffle Brook Park; Lisa will update bird section in Wildlife; update native plants in the vegetation section; incorporate Alexandra’s information into the vegetation section; Rayna is updating historical references, transportation, land use and open space, air quality, climate, and water resources; Hawthorne Historical Society will create New Chapter on the history of Hawthorne streets and street dedications honoring our veterans – Rec’d Information; – Bird, Native Plant, and Historical Society provided information and all information has been incorporated into ERI; Kevin Foley shared that he purchased the former Charles Fick house located on Lynack Avenue; in the process of restoring the house; former property was dairy farm with cows; under (1) acre of land; This home’s

history will be incorporated into the Historical Reference section that is provided by the Hawthorne Historical Society.

- b. **Community Forestry Plan, Tree Maintenance, Tree Hazard, and Tree Planting** – Sent to Shade Tree Commission for information – Deadline February 19, 2022; Recd NJDEP Annual Report submittal and 2021 Annual HSTC report; waiting for tree maintenance, tree hazard, tree planting and information on the trees for the Vegetation ERI Section.
- c. **Brownfield Inventory & Prioritization** – Up dated by Rayna February 2022 Update Matrix – Review and Discuss; all information incorporated into the ERI; Need to distribute memo to appropriate Boro’s Boards and Commissions
- d. **Mayor’s Wellness Program** –Focus on 4 categories – Youth, Seniors, Employees and Community in Motion – Minimum of 3 initiatives for each one must be completed in the last 18 months (January 1, 2021 to May 2022); Mary contacted Hawthorne Library Programs – gather materials; Library provided an Excel spreadsheet with all activities from 2019 to 2021 at the library; Rayna reviewed and identified programs to be included in the mayor wellness program submittal; Rayna reached out to Hawthorne School Guidance Director, Board of Recreation, Library, and Jen Scully at Boro Hall for additional information to be included in the submittal;
- e. **Reusable Bags** – Draft FAQs Flyer – Rita selected consumer Q/A from the New Jersey Business Action Center Plastics Ban website; Brenda/Mike will create a flyer; Review and Discussion – Completed; Social Media campaign started in February 2022; Rayna is working with John Tap Into Net on a series of articles on the plastic bag ban; Suggestion - April – Kids to Kids Program topic
- f. **Non-Mandated Materials Recycling** - Annual Recycling Tonnage Report – NJDEP Deadline April 30, 2022
- g. **Community Garden** – Action Plan Updated January 2020; Rayna needs to send information to Pat for letter of new data
- h. **Community Food Pantry Bank & Soup Kitchen** - New Action Plan 2021
- i. **Anti Idling** – 2021 Posted Additional 30 signs throughout Hawthorne, Total of 62 signs; publicity/educational materials – 2021 Green Fair & Hawthorne Day, and designated enforcement areas (working with the Hawthorne Police Department)
- j. **Emergency Communications Planning** – working with the Hawthorne Police on updating the checklists
- k. **Vulnerable Population Identification for Emergencies** – working with the Hawthorne Police on updating the checklists
- l. **Prescription Drug Safety and Disposal** – working with the Hawthorne Police for 2020 and 2021 disposal information
- m. **Pledge Supporting NJ Wildlife Action Plan, Sustainable Land Use Pledge, and Green Grounds & Maintenance Policy** – Prepare Update Resolutions for April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Council meeting – Discussed with Commissioners all plans and policy
- n. **Farmer’s Market** – Rayna will send information to Rob for update

IX. Update on Issues and Commissioners Concerns, Next Step -

**Virtual Joint Hawthorne Environmental Commission  
ZOOM Meeting  
Thursday April 14, 2022 at 7:30 pm**