



Hawthorne Environmental Commission Minutes May 9, 2019

Call to Order: Rayna Laiosa, Rosanne Zagatta, Robert Meier, Mike Mariani, Mary Lou DiMattia, Mary Mahon, Liana Romano, and Carol Robertson
Guests/Green Team Members: Grace Young, Patty Elwood, and Craig Cayetano

- I. Attendance and Acceptance of Meeting
 - a. Environmental Commission Minutes – April 4, 2019
Motion by: Mary Lou DiMattia, Second by: Rosanne Zagatta
- II. Planning Board Report – Mary Lou DiMattia
- III. Zoning Board of Adjustment – Draft Zoning Ordinance for review and discussion; No summary of changes of the Draft Zoning Ordinance; Commission requests clarification from Mayor or Planning Board
- IV. Green Team Subcommittee Meeting
 - a. Community Garden 2019 –
 1. Mulch Delivery – 2nd or 3rd Week in May 2019; depending upon the weather for delivery. Carol will follow-up to confirm delivery
 2. Water – Turn On – request to DPW
 - b. Bird Walks 2019
 1. Bird Walks – May 11, 2019, May 25, 2019, and June 1, 2019;
 - c. **Next Green Team Monday May 20, 2019 at 7:30 pm – Municipal Building**
- V. Annual June Environmental Program – Monday June 10, 2019 – Hawthorne High School
 - a. Discussion on recognizing Citizens and local Businesses - Please think about “potential nominations of people and a green business” to Recognize at the June Environmental Program.
 1. 2019 Green Business – John P Fischer Tile 1096 Goffle Road – electric charging station – Team agreed – Craig Cayetano will contact owner and report back to the Team; Other potential candidates discussed – Value City (Lupus donations), Then & Now, and Premio (recycle of grease – tonnage is high)- Liana will follow up her co-worker who has connections to the owners of Premio; Discussed : Downes Tree Service – composting facility
 2. Request Maureen Cook to follow up with local businesses that submit a recycling tonnage report to inquire about “other” environmental practices that are implementing at their business.
 3. Citizens – Robin Garmise and Stephanie Tonnesen Reimagined Designs
 - b. School Application for Use of the HHS to BOE – Completed by Rosanne

- c. Letters to Teachers – sent to all teachers; Kayse Daniels is our school liaison – Completed
- d. Special Invitations – Mayor, Council, and BOE – Rosanne will prepare and distribute - Completed
- e. Cell-Earth-Bration Powerpoint Presentation – Rayna
 - 1. Photos – Mike Mariani to provide – Received
- f. Picture Frames for the Certificates – Citizens and Green Business awardee
- g. Certification – Signature of Chair, Vice-Chair, and Mayor; Rayna will provide blank certifications for the Mayor to sign. We have enough signed certificates from last year. We are good.
- h. Re-Printing of Certificates – Discussion; Thankyou Mike for the paper. Paper was provided to Grace Young
- i. Publicity – Press Releases & Facebook

- VI. Sustainable Jersey Small Grants Program for Municipalities - Hawthorne awarded \$20,000 grant on May 8, 2018 (**project must be completed October 1, 2019**); 2018 ANJEC Open Space Stewardship Grants for Environmental Commissions Supported by the Sandy Batty Awarded \$1,500 grant (**project must be completed June 1, 2019**)
- a. **Sustainable Jersey Interim Report Due:** January 31, 2019 – Submitted on Wednesday January 30, 2019
 - b. **Rutgers –Next Step:** April 2019 implement rain gardens; Tentatively Scheduled Saturday April 13, 2019 at 10:00 am – Planting Day – Gold Shovels; Next Step: Rayna confirmed with Rutgers on the delivery of the native plants and the additional costs for the milkweed and native plants around the Trail Map sign - Completed.
 - c. **Downes Tree Service:** Tentatively Scheduled the week of April 8th (Saturday April 13, 2019 – Planting Day and Clean Up at 10:00 am); Back Up due to weather week of April 15, 2019 (Saturday April 20, 2019 – Planting Day and Clean Up at 10:00 am); **Next Step:** Request Downes to install the tree tags during the rain garden installation; Install the Rain Garden sign; Rayna will follow up with Downes – Confirmed Downes will install tree tags and rain garden sign.
 - d. **2019 Grand Opening** – TBD
 - e. **ANJEC Interim Progress Report** – due Friday October 5, 2018; Rayna requested Extension to Monday October 29, 2018- Granted; Interim Report sent to ANJEC on Saturday October 27, 2018
 - f. **ANJEC Final Report** – due June 14, 2019 – Rayna will request an Extension – Project is on Hold
 - g. Design of the **Trail Sign** “Gateway to the Passaic River” – Led by - Mary Mahon
 - 1. Native Plants – Purchase Milkweed plants to surround the Trail Sign (3 x 3 plants) and area (approximately 72 feet in length bu 6 feet wide) along the woody area adjacent to Stevenson Brook; Next Step: Rayna followed up with Rutgers on the costs and the amount of plants Milkweed; approximately 12 one (1) quart containers - Completed.
 - 2. Installation of Trail Sign – **TBD**; Agreed to No white lettering around the words “Gateway to the Passaic River”
 - h. **Trail Map:** Rayna will send Marc the Rain Garden Information for Page 2 of the Trail Map – Completed; .Next Step: Waiting for final draft of Trail Map
 - i. **Tree Tags** :Purchased 13 to 14 tree tags for identified trees – Silver Maple (Acer Saccharinum – 3), American Sycamore (Platanus Occidentalis), White Ash (Fraxinus Americana), Black Cherry (Prunus Serotina), American Elm (Ulmus Americana), White Mulberry (Morus Alba – 2), Catalpa (Catalpa), Boxelder

(Acer Negundo), Pin Oak (Quercus Palustris – 3), and Black Locust (Robinia Pseudoacacia) Costs approximately \$115.75; Completed; Tree Tags have arrived! **Next Step:** Downes Tree will install the tree tags during the installation of the Rain Gardens. – **TBD**; Carol will give the tree tags to Pat prior to leaving for her summer vacation home in Maine.

- j. **Nesting Boxes** Sunday February 17, 2019 at 1:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 30 installed the nesting boxes and conducted a Clean Up of the Area; It was a huge success!
- k. **Rain Garden Sign: TBD** Install Rain Garden Sign

VII. Sustainable Jersey (SJ) – Recertification Cycle – **Deadline Sunday June 2, 2019**

- a. Council Meeting March 20, 2019 – Env Com Chair will present to Mayor and Council “Hawthorne’s Re-Certification Program” – Silver Level
- b. Action Plans – Municipality/Borough Council – On January 29, 2019, Rayna is meeting with the Municipality – Mayor Goldberg, Eric Maurer, Lori DiBella, and Ellen Brogno to discuss their Action Plans
 - 1. Public Information & Engagement – (3) Action Plans – in process; municipality is working with our Env Com intern; Grace, intern, will work with the municipality on Tuesday and Thursdays.
 - 2. Animals in the Community & Pledge Supporting NJ Wildlife Action Plan – Completed & Uploaded
 - 3. Emergency & Resiliency (2) Action Plans – Completed & Uploaded
 - 4. Energy – in process; municipality is working with our Env Com intern
 - 5. Land Use & Transportation – Effective Parking Management – Not pursuing Action Plan at this time
 - 6. Grounds & Maintenance Policy (Resolution/Council) – Discussed April 3, 2019 Council passed resolution, Efficient Landscape Design, and Recycled Materials & Composting – In process
 - 7. Prescription Drug Safety & Disposal – Completed & Uploaded
 - 8. Recycling & Waste Reduction Education & Compliance – Request 2019 Annual Tonnage Waste Recycling Report
- c. Action Plans - Environmental Commission/Green Team
 - 1. Brownfields – Completed & Uploaded
 - 2. Green Team – Completed & Uploaded
 - 3. Green Fair (2) Action Plans – Completed & Uploaded
 - 4. Animals in the Community – Completed & Uploaded
 - 5. Community Partnership & Outreach – Completed & Uploaded
 - 6. Sustainable Land Use Pledge – Completed & Uploaded
 - 7. Mayor’s Wellness Program – Sustainable Jersey updated this Action Plan; Multiple sustainable jersey points can be awarded; Carol sent summary documents to Rana for review and update
 - 8. Anti Idling & Enforcement Program – John Maene – discussed the importance of educating the public on the Anti-Idling Laws; Would like to see an Educational Communication Campaign – Nixel, Channel 77, Electronic Board, Facebook, Council, Letter to Editor and Press Releases; John will prepare information for the Educational Communication Campaign; **STATUS UPDATE:** John prepared Nixel alert statements and Channel 77 and Facebook messages; **Saturday May 18, 2019** Corner of

Warburten and Lafayette Avenue – Anti Idling Tagging Day.
Request Volunteers – Rayna, Pat MacDonald, Patty Elwood,
Robert Meier, Craig, and Rosanne; Robert Meier will bring
safety vests to wear.

9. Green Business Recognition Program – In Process
 10. Community Asset Planning – Hawthorne Green Map –
Completed & Uploaded
 11. Buy Local Campaign- Completed & Uploaded
 12. Support Local Campaign – Completed & Uploaded
 13. Community Garden – Completed & Uploaded
 14. Hawthorne Environmental Commission – Completed &
Uploaded
 15. Hawthorne Environmental Commission Site Plan Review –
Completed & Uploaded
 16. Environmental Resource Inventory – Approved by SJ – No
additional information must be submitted – Approved
 17. Water Conservation Educational Programs - Not pursuing
Action Plan at this time
 18. Grounds & Maintenance – Policy, Efficient Landscape Design,
and Recycled Materials & Composting; Discussed April 3, 2019
– Council passed Ground and Maintenance Policy
 19. Recycling & Waste Reduction Education & Compliance
 20. Rain Gardens – Approved by SJ – No additional information
must be submitted.
 21. Hawthorne Environmental Commission – Internship Program –
Completed & Uploaded
 22. Gateway to the Passaic River project – Will not submit project as
Innovative Project – Changed to “Planned”
 23. Tree Protection Ordinance – Approved by SJ; No additional
information must be submitted
 24. Prescription Drug Safety & Disposal – Completed & Uploaded
- d. Action Plans – Hawthorne Shade Tree Commission – Rayna requested/received
the 5 Year Community Forestry Plan and 2018 Annual Accomplishment Report
– Working on updating all of the Action Plans and sent to Shade Tree
Commission for review and input on the updated information. In Review of
Shade Tree Commission Env Commission comments.
1. Tree & Woodlands – Community Forestry Management Plan
(CFMP) & Canopy Goal – Hawthorne is waiting for NJDEP’s
approval of the 2019-2023 plan. We will go ahead and submit
our CFMP plan and canopy goal for re-certification. The
Environmental Commission has had several discussions with the
Shade Tree Commission Tree regarding the Canopy Goal for
Hawthorne. The Environmental Commission Chair, Rayna
Laiosa and Shade Tree Commission Chair, Dria Lobosco, agree
not to choose a set numeric goal for the tree canopy due to
budget constraints and the feasibility of increasing the cover as
opposed to maintaining. We both agree to continue working
together on educating the community of the importance of trees.
For the past several years, the Shade Tree Commission has
worked closely with the Environmental Commission at our
annual Cel-Earth-Bratton event.
 2. Tree Hazard Inventory – Shade Tree Commission is in the
process of updating inventory in 2019

- 3. Tree Maintenance Program – Will submit documentation
- 4. Tree Planting Program – Will submit documentation
- e. Action Plans – Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce
 - 1. Farmers’ Market – Completed & Uploaded
 - 3. Accessible to Farmers’ Market – Completed & Uploaded

VIII. Update on Issues and Commissioners Concerns, Next Steps

- a. Environmental Intern –Grace Young – Paramus Catholic High School – Work with Rayna on our Re Certification Program and various Env Com/ Green Team Projects Grace provided updates/text box information to Rayna; Plan Wednesday March 27 meet and review documents (Animals in the Community, Community Education & Outreach Programs, and Green Team). April 14, 2019 meeting – Grace provided updates to Farmers’ Market, Accessible Farmers’ Market, Hold Green Fair and “Green” Green Fair; Discussed assignment to work with Municipality SJ Action Plans;
- b. Pappy’s Juice Bar – Request assistance – Extract from smoothies– compostable material. Looking for an outlet for disposal of the material instead of the garbage; Pat contacted City Green on potential solutions – waiting for response
- c. CHCC – Trees clear cut in the woody area; leaves and debris blowing onto Emeline Drive residents; No Dam Permit issued by NJDEP yet

**Annual June Environmental Program
June 10, 2019 at 7:30 pm Hawthorne High School Auditorium**