



**Virtual Meeting
Hawthorne Environmental Commission – Minutes
May 12, 2022**

Call to Order: Rayna Laiosa, Lisa DeVos, Holly Cowen, Carol Robertson, Pat MacDonnell, Rob Meier,
Guests: Charles Stebbins, and Maureen Cook

Join Zoom Meeting

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- I. Attendance and Acceptance of Meeting –
 - a. Environmental Commission/ Minutes – April 14, 2022
1st Motion: Pat MacDonnell 2nd Motion: Robert Meier

- 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: Tuesday May 3, 2022 Plans revised; next meeting June 7, 2022
 - b. At April 19, 2022 Planning Board meeting passed a resolution accepting Environmental Resource Inventory (ERI) Update dated April 2022 to be incorporated as Appendix in Hawthorne’s Master Plan; Thank you, Rob Meier, for representing the Commission on the Planning Board and addressing any questions that the Board may have on the ERI; Rayna prepared summary and documentation for SJ re-certification – Completed

- III. Kids Corner Newsletter Discussion postponed
 - a. Moving Newsletter to Quarterly instead of Monthly for 2022 – 1) February – Done 2) April/May, 3) June/July/August, and 4) Sept/Oct/Nov – Bring ideas/thoughts to next meeting in June 2022 April/May Topic???. Topic for this month is recycling. Dawn sent draft to Mary and Rayna Approved nice job.

- IV. Polystyrene Collection Date – Follow Up Discussion collection event at the Hawthorne Pool Complex. With pool opening the identified Saturdays are no longer available until fall 2022. Evening collection was discussed at the Ambulance Corp/DPW Garage location but traffic on Wagaraw and Goffle Road is a concern. Discussion tabled for next monthly meeting; May 2022 meeting – discussed - solution two collections a year with dates put on the Boro’s calendar, just like Shred Day. Safety is a concern. Tentative date Oct 1, 2022, rain date Oct 15TH. 2022; Maureen Cook will confirm with DPW and Polystyrene Company regarding tentative date of October 1, 2022.

- V. Green Team Meeting
 - a. Community Garden – Water is turned On! Mulch Delivery, provided information on weed and organic pest management to our gardeners; will be posted on the Boro’s website
 - b. Pat to e-mail gardeners water is on. Carol brought down the hose and mulch delivered
 - c. Next Green Team Meeting: Monday May 23, 2022 at 7:30 pm – Cancelled

- VI. 30th Cel-Earth-Bration Event – Saturday April 30, 2022 at the Pool Complex; A beautiful Day
 - a. Theme –**Reduce Waste Put Plastic In Its Place**
 - b. Thank You – sent to all participants, vendors, organizations, and volunteers!
 - c. Thank you to the team. To Maureen for setting up the DPW workers. They were a great help.
 - d. A discussion followed as set up. May go back indoors for Green Projects. No longer to have judged prizes. Instead, all participants put in name and raffle drawn for winners. Environmental Commission to purchase grand prize.
 - e. Potential location change for an Outdoor Event - Lincoln Middle School Vendors can be outside and projects inside. In case of inclement weather vendor tables can move inside to the gym.

- 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
 - a. **In-Process Action Plans**
 - 1. Non-Mandated Materials for Recycling - Annual Recycling Tonnage Report is done– NJDEP Deadline April 30, 2022; waiting for 21-22

2. Recycling Education and Enforcement – Maureen to contact Pete and Gene Inspections and Violations Totals needed on nice Letter Head
3. Community Outreach and Education
4. Green Fair
5. “Green” Your Green Fair
6. Buy Local Campaign
7. Support Local Businesses
8. Efficient Landscape & Design
9. Recycled Materials and Recycling
10. Innovation Project – “Gateway to the Passaic River” ??; Rain Garden Action Plan expired; no longer eligible for SJ points; need to review Postponed
11. 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 – Hawthorne High School no longer has a teacher for this program Postponed until August
12. Farmer’s Market and Making Farmers’ Market Accessible –SJ is in the process of Updating Action Plan; hold off initial submittal of information to SJ Postponed until August
13. Points have been made for Silver Certificate. Counting more for awards and recognition.

b. Completed/Uploaded into SJ System

1. Environmental Resource Inventory (ERI)
2. Community Forestry Plan, Tree Maintenance, Tree Hazard, and Tree Planting – - Completed, except for Tree Hazard and Tree Inventory Information
3. Mayor’s Wellness Program
4. Community Garden
5. Community Food Pantry Bank & Soup Kitchen
6. Anti Idling
7. Emergency Communications Planning –
8. Vulnerable Population Identification for Emergencies -
9. Prescription Drug Safety and Disposal -
10. Pledge Supporting NJ Wildlife Action Plan
11. Sustainable Land Use Pledge
12. Green Grounds & Maintenance Policy
13. Green Team
14. Shredding
15. Municipal Communication Strategy
16. Digitizing Public Information
17. Household Hazardous Waste
18. Brownfield Investigation/Assessment
19. Recycling Depot
20. Innovation Project – City Green Daffodil and Red Bud Tree Project in 2021 – Completed
21. Hawthorne Environmental Commission

- IX. Discussion on June Meeting – Monday June 6, 2022 Moved to June 9th – All agreed

- X. Update on Issues and Commissioners Concerns,
 - a. Discussion of inquiry about recycling books/book swap from Hawthorne resident. Holly contacted Better World Books More's"- profit organization and is not accepting any additional collection locations; Discussed and Agreed that the Hawthorne recycling center accepts hard and soft cover books and of course the library accepts donations; Rayna will respond to Haw Resident that the recycling center accepting books and the library book donation.
 - b. Hawthorne Water Discussion – Town will be going out to bid for the pfas treatment system shortly. Hawthorne received it's treatment water permit from NJDEP.

**Virtual Joint Hawthorne Environmental Commission
ZOOM Meeting
June 9, 2022 at 7:30 pm**