



Hawthorne Environmental Commission Minutes October 11, 2018

Call to Order: Rayna Laiosa, Rosanne Zagatta, Robert Meier, Pat MacDonnell, Mary Mahon, Mike Mariani, and Carol Roberts

Guests: Holly Cowen, Maureen Cook, Alex Vetlov, Patty Elwood, and Paul Whelan

- I. Attendance and Acceptance of Meetings:
 - a. Environmental Commission/Green Team Minutes – September 6, 2018
 - b. Green Team – September 24, 2018 – CancelledMotion by: Mike Mariani Second by: Robert Meier

- II. Planning Board Report – Mary Lou DiMattia
 - a. Royal Realty Hearing Tuesday June 19, 2018 at 7:30 pm Updating; Commission's comment letter dated October 24, 2017 to the Zoning Board of Adjustment; 29 Units; 58 parking spaces; Commission's concerns: Steep Slopes, Stormwater – Seepage Pits – maintenance, parking garage ventilation -fumes, and native plant; Commission sent comment letter dated July 1, 2018; Next Meeting: Tuesday July 24, 2018 at 7:30 pm – Cancelled; Next Meeting: Tuesday August 21, 2018 – Postponed to Tuesday September 25, 2018 at 7:00 pm - Royal Realty Approved by the Planning Board

- III. Zoning Board of Adjustment
 - a. Hawthorne Zoning Board of Adjustment – CHCC application Hearing Monday June 18, 2018 at 6:45 pm – Postponed decision to extend additional one (1) year approval of the project; Application will not be heard at the Hawthorne Zoning Board until the Wyckoff Zoning Board of Adjustment is approved and the 45 day appeal process is completed; Next Hearing: July 16, 2018 to discuss the extension. – Board Approved the Extension – (1) year additional – No update – Next Meeting: Monday September 17, 2018 at 6:45 pm – Revised Plans – CHCC Revised Plans Approved by the Zoning Board of Adjustment

- IV. NJDEP Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation Fund (HDSRF) 2018 Grant – Filed/Submitted Monday September 24, 2018 to NJDEP (\$60,600 scope of work)

- V. Green Team Subcommittee Meeting
 - a. Community Garden 2018 –
 1. Harvest Celebration – Booked Saturday October 20, 2018 Ambulance Building Corp at 4:00 pm
 2. Discussed Ordinance Fee to be amended; include that the community garden fees can be utilized for the operation and maintenance of the community garden; Rayna needs to discuss with Eric and Mayor Goldberg

3. Hawthorne Food Pantry Continues – Barbara will be collecting and keeping track of pounds of produce; Next Step: Pat MacDonnell will follow-up with Barbara on the amount of food donated to the Pantry
 - b. Green Lectures 2018 – Hawthorne Library
 - c. Bird Watching 101 – Lisa DeVos, Holly Cowen, and Liana Ramona – Discuss nesting boxes, feeders, birds, etc. – Fall or Winter of 2019 –
 - d. Bird Walk – TBD Saturday October 2018 – **Cancelled** due Rain Date – Green Fair Tentatively scheduled September 16, 2018 at 8:30 am 8 Acre Woods; Rayna will send flyer to John Bertollo and ask permission to use the Boys & Girls Club parking lot; Need to Re Schedule; Potentially Coordinate with Daisy Troop Project Date in November 2018 or Spring 2019
 - e. **Next Green Team Monday October 22, 2018 at 7:30 pm – Hawthorne Library**
- VI. Green Fair 8th Annual Green Fair Sunday September 9, 2018 (**Activated** - rain date Sunday September 16, 2018); Rebecca Grambone – Intern – Leading the Planning of our Green Fair – Overall, there was a light crowd. Some of the vendors were unable to participate the Rain Date Green Fair. However, the band was able to participate.
- a. **Time of Event** 9 am to 2 pm; set-up 8:00 am; Vendors at 8:30 am;
 - b. **Men of Horse Band** – 10:30 am to 1:30 pm with (2) 15 minute breaks –
 - c. **Thank You to our Vendors**
 1. Amy Rowe – Rutgers - Rainbarrel/green infrastructure/ water conservation/native plant booth - **Confirmed**
 2. Hawthorne Recycling – Maureen Cook – New Plastic Policy – Only 1, 2, and 5’s will be accepted; Will communicate to the Community this month, August 2018- **Confirmed**
 3. “Animals Need You” non-profit organization Tom – Mary Mahon - **Confirmed**
 4. BEAR Management – **Confirmed**; need three (3) chairs; Unable to participate at Rain Date
 5. Hawthorne Garden Club - **Confirmed**
 6. Goffle Brook Farm – waiting for a response; **Confirmed** - Jointly with Lincoln Landscaping
 7. Green Team/Environmental Commission Booth –Community Garden, Rain Garden, Native Plant Projects, and NJ Clean Energy Program – Promote programs; **Next Steps:** Pat will bring milkwood seeds giveaways for participants; Lisa will bring copies of our new Env Commission/Green Team Brochure and 8 Acre Woods Map to be distributed
 8. Hawthorne Birds- **Confirmed**
 9. Food Bank local Hawthorne St. Clementine’s Church – Green Team/Chamber of Commerce will collect non-perish food
 10. Holistic Nutrition for Life – Mary Mahon - **Confirmed**
 11. Hawthorne Railroad Association – waiting for response; Collecting for the Food Pantry
 12. Lincoln Landscaping – **Confirmed**
 13. Reimagined Designs – Stephanie - **Confirmed**
 14. PCSPCA – Stephanie Tonnesen Hornbeck – **Confirmed**
 15. Veronica MacDonald Ditko – “A Rock Solid History of Hawthorne.” - **Confirmed**
- VII. 10th Annual Hawthorne Day – Saturday September 22, 2018

- a. Environmental Commission/Green Team Booth – Thank You – Mary, Pat MacDonnell, Lisa, Holly, Liana, and Patty Elwood
- VIII. Sustainable Jersey Small Grants Program for Municipalities - Hawthorne awarded \$20,000 grant on May 8, 2018
- a. Council meeting on Wednesday June 6, 2018 -Rayna presented to Council “Gateway to the Passaic River.”
 - b. Remove Poison Ivy from woody area - Proposals from Poison Ivy Gone (received proposal - July) and Green Goats (received proposal May); Another suggestion from Alex Vetlov – Downes Tree Service – Goffle Brook Park project; Note: Buttonbush must be preserved along the shoreline of the Passaic River. Met with Downes Monday July 23, 2018 – Carol and Rayna – discussed alternative locations for rain garden – two instead of one; Entrance of the walkway on each side; Rayna contacted Rutgers – Rutgers agrees to the alternative location of the rain garden. Rutgers will send the rain garden design within one (1) month – August. **Conclusion** – Downes Tree Service will remove poison ivy along the existing pathway to the River; all other poison ivy in the woody area will remain;
 - c. July 2018 – Carol stated that there are tires and metal car grill along the shoreline of the Passaic River – Needs to be removed
 - d. NJDEP Fish & Wildlife contacted the Commission – tentatively scheduled the first week of June – Stock fish in the Passaic River at the Hawthorne launch area – Wagaraw Ballfields – Scheduled on Thursday May 24, 2018 at 11:00 am - Northern Pike and Brown Headed Catfish; Pat and Carol will prepare a Press Release for the newspapers; Send to Rayna for review – Complete – Article was published in the Gazette and Hawthorne Press
 - e. **Rutgers** – Received Scope of Work proposal dated June 11, 2018; Council approved the Resolution on June 20, 2018. Waiting for Rutgers to propose dates for kickoff Site Visit meeting. – Confirmed Thursday July 12, 2018 at 10:00 am – Carol met with Rutgers. – Received Design September 4, 2018; Rayna will send to the Team for review; Team agreed with the Rain Garden Design; Rayna communicated to Rutgers; **Next Step:** Friday October 5, 2018 at 8:00 am to have a Kick Off Meeting with Commission and Downes Tree Service
 - f. **Downes Tree Service** – Monday September 24, 2018 – Rayna met with Pieter to discuss revised rain garden location and scope of work; Pieter will provide a proposal to install the rain garden, clear the pathway to the River, and removal of the large tree.; On Friday September 28, 2018, Rayna received permission from DPW to remove the trees in the rain garden location. **Next Step:** Friday October 5, 2018 at 8:00 am to have a Kick Off Meeting with Commission and Downes Tree Service – Confirmed; went very well; Rayna will work with the Borough revised Rutgers Purchase Order and Issue Purchase Order for Downes.
 - g. 2019 Grand Opening Idea – Work with local Dick’s Sporting Goods, Ramsey Outdoor, or Campmour for kayak or canoe demonstrations- Discussion
- IX. 2018 ANJEC Open Space Stewardship Grants for Environmental Commissions Supported by the Sandy Batty Grant Fund Deadline Friday April 13, 2018 at 4:30 pm; Submitted Sunday April 8, 2018
- a. “Gateway to the Passaic River” grant application – purchase of nesting boxes, trail sign, tree tags, and trail map created - \$1,500
 - b. Notified on May 11, 2018 - Hawthorne Environmental Commission was awarded \$1,500 grant
 - c. Interim Progress Report – due Friday October 5, 2018; Rayna requested Extension to Monday October 29, 2018- Granted; ANJEC sent template

- d. Design of the **Trail Sign** “Gateway to the Passaic River” – Led by - Mary Mahon presented initial designs for the Trail Sign – team discussed and reviewed the initial designs; made some suggestions to the Trail sign;
 - 1. Final Design – Canoe, Duck, Fish – Boxes around the wood the words “Gateway to the Passaic River” - Length of Trail Sign – 5 feet; Width of the Trail Sign – 2 feet; Rayna needs to create a pdf of the design in order to receive pricing for the trail sign. September 26, 2018 – final design was revised and Team agreed to the changes
 - 2. John Minicozzi – may be able to donate local wood to make the Trail Sign; re-purpose local wood into products; **Confirmed** - John will donate the wood to the Env Com/Green Team – Donated birch wood – 5 feet length by 2 feet wide and two (2) wooden posts for the Trail Sign
 - 3. Paul Whelan -Lucky Wood Hawthorne NJ – Will cut and make the Trail Sign; Paul will work with John on the selection of the wood – Birch wood selected
 - 4. Trail Sign Location – Maureen Cook/Rob Meier checking with Town and County for requirements – ordinances
- e. **Trail Map** – Rayna is working with Marc Molernaro; Similar design as the 8 Acre Wood trail map; Mary will prepare a sketch of the trail map area of the Woody area and Ballfield Complex. Include the nesting boxes and tree tags on map
- f. **Tree Tags** – Carol researched the internet; Found “Plants Map”; tree tags for Trees; Carol will order samples and send them to Pat MacDonald’s house. Pat brought the tree tag samples; Team loved them; Team agreed to purchase 10 to 15 large tree tags; Designed Carol to communicate with Hawthorne’s Arborist and Shade Tree Commission;
- g. **Nesting Boxes** – Working with Cub Scouts – Steven Fitzsminon and John Manzo troop; Commission/Green Team will supply the recycled materials. What type of birds do we want to attract? Discussed: summary of the nesting box size openings that we are interested in building for the Gateway project.
 - 4 inch hole - wood duck
 - 3 inch hole - screech owl
 - 2 1/2 inch hole - flicker
 - 1 1/8 inch hole - carolina wren and chickadee
 - 1 1/4 inch hole – nuthatch
 Next Step: Alex will determine the quantity of materials and costs for the nesting box to make a total of 8. Send to Rayna by Friday October 19, 2018

X. Update on Issues and Commissioners Concerns, Next Steps

- a. 2018-2019 School Calendar Dates – Cel Earth Bration and Annual June Environmental Program – Need to Follow-up – Rosanne – **April 6, 2019 and June 10, 2019 Booked**; Hawthorne Day Saturday September 21, 2019
- b. Native Plant – Municipal Building – Riverstone Designs – Andy will follow-up this week (week of June 11, 2018); working on proposal for the Commission; June 7, 2018 - Boswell Engineering provided a Google Map along with the Tax Map layer to show the property lines of the Borough Hall in a tiff file and pdf file to the Environmental Commission; Update – **September 2018** Arborist will assess the trees at Borough Hall; September 20, 2018 – Rayna with Lincoln Landscaping, Ellen Brogno, and Maureen Cook to discuss the native plant project at the Municipal Building; The project was broken into 4 separate projects. Maureen will send Mike (Lincoln Landscaping) notes of the meeting; Lincoln Landscaping will provide a proposal based on the meeting – Maureen

sent e-mail on September 26, 2018. Next Step: Maureen will follow up with Mike for the proposal

- c. 8 Acre Woods – Cub Scout Project – Conservation Project – Build and Install Nesting Boxes and Bat House – Jake – discussed with Jake; waiting from Jake to provide a proposal – scope of work for the project. **Conclusion:** Jack completed another project.
- d. New Recycling Rules – Only #1, #2, and #5 plastics will be acceptable at the Curb and Recycling Center; No caps; Caps will be disposed in the Garbage. **Conclusion:** Letters/brochures sent to all residents
- e. Daisy Troop Project – Daisy sent letter to Mayor and Council requesting to put Pine cone bird feeders on municipal property for the birds. Discussed the following potential locations:
 - 1. Municipal Building
 - 2. 8 Acre Woods
 - 3. Pool and Bandshell Complex Area
 - 4. Wagaraw Ballfield Complex Area
 - 5. Rhodes Park - Utter Avenue
 - 6. Library
 - 7. Community Garden
 - 8. DPW - Water Building area adjacent to the Goffle Brook waterway
 - 9. Rayna will follow-up with Municipality with proposed locations and coordinate the date of implementation.
- f. Goffle Brook Park – Alex Vetlox – Concern/Issue – cutting of the native plants in September 2018 from the County; too early – removal of the seed pods; diminish fall flowering opportunities for the pollinators, birds, and wildlife; removal/cutting of the native plants – promotes ragweed to grow; Next Step: Holly take pictures; Alex prepare a draft letter outlining the concerns; Commission will review and work with the Municipality on potentially sending a letter to the County
- g. Discussed 2019 Environmental Commission and Green Team meeting Dates

2019 Hawthorne Environmental Commission Meetings

January 10, 2019
February 7, 2019
March 14, 2019
April 4, 2019
May 9, 2019
June 10, 2019 – Annual Environmental Program
July 11, 2019
August 8, 2019
September 5, 2019
October 10, 2019
November 14, 2019
December 12, 2019

2019 Green Team Sub-Committee of the Environmental Commission

January 28, 2019
February 25, 2019
March 25, 2019
April 29, 2019
May 20, 2019

June 24, 2019
July 29, 2019
August 26, 2019
September 23, 2019
October 28, 2019
November 25, 2019
December 12, 2019

**Environmental Commission Meeting
November 8, 2018 at 7:30 pm Municipal Building**