



**Virtual Meeting
Hawthorne Environmental Commission- Minutes
May 13, 2021**

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

Guests: Maureen Cook, and Dawn Zagatta

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8454403062?pwd=Yno2T1cxRmZVK29ralF0ZjNMb0RKZz09>

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- I. Attendance and Acceptance of Meeting –
 - a. Environmental Commission Minutes – April 8, 2021
Motion by Mary Mahon, Second by: Carol Robertson

- II. Planning Board Report – Robert reported affordable housing ordinance 3 Ronson discussed at recent meeting; next meeting is May 17, 2021

- III. Kids Corner Newsletter
 - a. Moving Newsletter to Quarterly instead of Monthly – 1) February, 2) April/May, 3) June/July/August, and 4) Sept/Oct/Nov
 - b. Summer’s will be about bees, insects (June/July/August) – Dawn is working on pollinators, bees, and butterflies
 - c. And then one in Fall (Sep/Oct/Nov)
 - d. **Suggestion/Recommendation** - to include the birds in the seasonal newsletter since different birds are more likely to be seen in each special season.

- IV. Green Team Meeting
 - a. Green Fair Lectures – Thank You Email and Press Release – Follow up with Lisa
 - b. Community Garden – Water turned on week of May 3, 2021; Mulch Delivery – Completed
 - c. Next Virtual ZOOM Meeting: Monday May 24, 2021 at 7:30 pm

- V. April Hawthorne Events – Thank You All for Volunteering Your Time for Our Events! Teamwork!
 - a. Shredding Day Saturday April 17, 2021 9:00 am to 12:00 pm Boro Hall – Great job!
 - b. Polystyrene Collection Day Saturday April 24, 2021 9:00 am to 12:00 pm Boro Hall Parking Lot (Rain/Snow Date: May 1, 2021) – Great Job!

- VI. 8 Acre Woods Project (Project) Discussion – Partnership with the Borough of Hawthorne, Hawthorne Shade Tree Commission, Downes Tree Service and the Hawthorne Environmental Commission – The Environmental Commission, lead of the Project, has been working with the Shade Tree Commission, Town Arborist, and Downes Tree Service to evaluate and assess the 8 Acre Woods area. Downes has generously donated labor to make the walking trails wider and remove/cut back the bush and tree branches along the walkway. The Commissions (Environmental/Shade Tree) will be working with Downes on dates to complete the work.
 - a. **Existing walking trails** – Walkable, but will be widened by Downes Tree Service
 - b. **Conditions of the Existing Trees and bushes** – The trees along the walkways are **not classified** as a “hazard tree” meaning in danger of falling; may be a safety hazard. The trees and the bush along the walkways will be trimmed and cut back. The trees along the walkways that have vines up their tree trunk will be cut down. Jointly – Hawthorne Shade Tree Commission and Environmental Commission will develop the scope of work for Downes
 - c. **Trail Signs** – Rayna will provide the number of trail signs; Total of 15 signs - ((1) Warbler Way, (2) Migrant Meadows, (2) Vireo Vista, (1) Catbird Circle, (2) Oriole View, (1) Llewellyn Lane, (2) Towhee Trail, (2) Grosbeak Grove, (1) Finch Fairway, and (1) Robin Road) that we need to purchase to Rosanne. Rosanne will contact Vacker Signs for Trails and Parks, who purchased our Rain Garden Sign for the Gateway to the Passaic River project;
 - d. **Trail Map** - Rayna will provide Mary the County’s updated survey conducted at Goffle Brook Park and 8 Acre Woods. Mary will create an updated 8 Acre Woods Trail Map. Mike M offered a graphic designer to assist with the Trail Map created by Mary Mahon.
 - e. **Educational Platforms** – The educational platforms were installed and funded by a NJDEP grant– open space. The Borough’s Administration will investigate the conditions of the grant to determine if the platforms can be removed or the platforms must be repaired. The Commission will continue to work the Borough’s Administration.
 - f. **Clean Up Dates** – Garbage and Recycling Materials – TBD

- VII. **Anti-Idling Signs** – Carol & Pat Project Leads - Designated Locations – Purchased 30 signs from NJDEP Wag Fields, Pool Complex/Band Shell Area; Cubs field Maitland Ave, HHS field fence, Gateway Area, Boro Hall, Ambulance Corp, and Hawthorne Library; Carol and Pat went out to all the locations and took pictures - Completed
 - a. Spacing: 20-25 feet depending on location

- b. **Pool: Total of 4 Signs on Existing Posts** that are there along the parking lot and tennis courts; signs exist so all we have to do is put the signs on the posts
- c. **Hawthorne High School Bamford Avenue: Total of 3 Signs on Existing Fence** - we need permission form superintendent of schools
- d. **Hawthorne Library: Total of 3 Signs - Need 2 Posts Installed** in the parking lot; Question about the Lamp post? Or Can we Post on the Existing Fence – Need Library Board Permission
- e. **Ambulance building: Total of 2 Signs – Need 2 Posts Installed**
- f. **Band shell: Total of 2 Signs – Need 2 Posts Installed**
- g. **Hawthorne Cubs field: Total of 3 Signs installed on Existing Fence**
- h. **Wagaraw Road Ball fields: Total of 5 Signs - Wag 1 – 2 Signs Need Post Installed** (snack stand area); **Wag 2 1 Sign on Existing Post; Wag 4- 2 Signs Need Post Installed**
- i. **Hawthorne Boro Hall: Total of 2 Signs - 1 Sign Existing Post and 1 Sign Installed on Light Post (need brackets)**
- j. **Gateway at the Passaic River: 1 Sign on Existing Post** by handicap
- k. **Kohler Soccer Fields: Total of 3 Signs Installed on Existing Fence**
- l. **Summary Total of 28 Signs**
 - 1. **Existing Posts/Fences- 4 (Pool) +3 (HHS) + 3 (Hawthorne Cubs Field) + 1 (Wag 2) + 2 (Haw Boro Hall) + 1 (Gateway) + 3 (Kohler Field) = 17**
 - 2. **New Posts Installed – 3 (Library) +2 (Ambulance) + 2 (Band Shell) + 4 (Wag field area) = 11**
- m. Next Steps: Work with Hawthorne Police Department (HPD) and Hawthorne Environmental Commission (Carol & Pat)– Confirmed Monday May 17, 2021 to confirm/verify location of signs with HPD. Once in Agreement, will communicate to Hawthorne Library Board, and Superintendent of Schools of the proposed Sign Locations and permission to install signs/posts as needed
- n. Posts and Signs will be installed by Hawthorne Department of Public Works (DPW)

VIII. Update on Issues and Commissioners Concerns, Next Step

- a. **Follow Up from the March 11, 2021 Meeting** - Craig – Trex Program – Fair Lawn and Ringwood is collecting plastic bags at their town; Discussed program and requested the following information from Craig as Next Steps: – acceptable locations for the plastic bags, does the locations have enough room for all the plastic collected from the Trex program or do they have designated bins for that program, time commitment, empty bins and time for drop off and weight it. Will report at next’s Commission meeting – Craig was absent and unable to provide an update.
- b. **Gateway to the Passaic River** – Maureen Cook confirmed that a garbage and recycling container is available for area.

**Virtual Hawthorne Environmental Commission
ZOOM Meeting
Monday June 8, 2021 at 7:30 pm**