



**Virtual Meeting
Hawthorne Environmental Commission- Minutes
August 19, 2021**

Call to Order: Rayna Laiosa, Mary Mahon, Robert Meier, Pat MacDonnell, Carol Robertson, Lisa DeVos, Holly Cowen, and Mike Mariani
Guests: Maureen Cook and Craig Cayetano (arrived at 7:50 pm)

Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 845 440 3062

Password: 8bdZWY

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,8454403062#,,,,0#,,491101# US (Germantown)

+13126266799,,8454403062#,,,,0#,,491101# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location (Please use if no access to Zoom meeting software)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 845 440 3062

Password: 491101

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/keDbeNj4iS>

- I. Attendance and Acceptance of Meeting –
 - a. Environmental Commission Minutes – July 8, 2021
Motion: Mary Mahon 2nd Motion: Robert Meier

- II. Planning Board Report – Reported by Robert Meier
 - a. Former Chicken & Rib store applicant – proposal pizza and chicken store;
Approved/Passed 5 to 2;
 - b. 204 Wagaraw Road – Submit 2nd floor mezzanine on fitness building; require additional parking spaces, parking space proposed 8 feet wide, instead of 9 feet wide; Board Denied; applicant must go to NJDEP for approval to disturb the wetland area (ie. permit modification) to install 7 parking spaces, then applicant can re apply to Planning Board once NJDEP approves the permit modification;
 - c. Existing Dunkin Donuts/former Skuffy Subs property – Applicant proposes new building behind existing building for Dunkin Donuts drive thru; rent out existing property; disturb steep slopes, install (2) lane road; extend hours of operation;
Approved/Passed

- 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 – Will discuss at next meeting in September – 4th Quarter Issue

- IV. Hawthorne Day Saturday September 25, 2021
 - a. Prepare and Submit Haw Day Vendor Application – Mary Mahon
 - b. Educational Awareness – “Hawthorne’s Natural Beauty” – Open Spaces, Birds, Biodiversity, Getting Back to Nature! See Hawthorne’s Nature at its Best!, **“Enjoying the Natural Beauty of Hawthorne”**
 - 1. Hawthorne Green Map
 - 2. Hawthorne Birds
 - 3. Gateway to the Passaic River – Tri-folds, trail maps, - Nesting Boxes, Rain Garden – native plants, stormwater management, trail to the Passaic River
 - 4. 8 Acre Woods – tentatively new trail map
 - 5. Native Plant - Boro Hall and Rain Garden at the Library
 - 6. Hawthorne BEE! – Litter
 - 7. Photo of the Hawthorne’s Community Garden
 - c. Tent – Hang the Posters inside the tent with large binder; Banners will be outside of the tent/posters; back to back posters for the sides of the tent; Exhibit – people walk into the tent and review the table documents; easels as back up;
 - d. Small table for giveaways – Spinning wheel

- V. Green Team Meeting
 - a. 10th Green Fair at the Farmers’ Market – Sunday September 12, 2021 (Rain Date: September 19, 2021)
 - 1. Time of Event 10:00 am to 1:30 pm; set-up 9:00 am
 - 2. Music – Hawthorne local musician – Matt and Kevin – Team agreed to hire a local band from Hawthorne; Rayna will contact - – Confirmed “Brothers McHat, a Matty Z duo!” Time – 10:00 am to 1:30 pm
 - 3. Entertainment – Hawthorne School of Dance – Erin - Time 12:15 pm to 12:30 pm
 - 4. Entertainment - The Grand Falloons Stephen Ringold – Team agreed to have entertainers (facepainting, stilt walkers, etc.) walk around at the Green Fair; instead of a scheduled set show; Rayna will work with Boro and The Grand Falloons to confirm their participation. Confirmed -10:30 am to 1:30 pm; 3 hours
 - 5. **Confirmed** – Contact Them & Request Participation – Open to New Vendors/Organizations – ***Deadline for Commitment – Monday July 26, 2021***
 - 1. Amy Rowe – Rainbarrel/green infrastructure/ water conservation/native plant booth – Rayna will contact - **Confirmed** Matt Leconey (Project Manager for the Gateway to the Passaic River – Rutgers Cooperative)
 - 2. Hawthorne Recycling – Maureen Cook – **Confirmed**
 - 3. “Animals Need You” non-profit organization - Tom – Mary contacted – not sure - **Confirmed**
 - 4. PCSPCA – Stephanie was going follow up – **Confirmed**
 - 5. BEAR Management – Doreen – Rayna sent email – **Confirmed**
 - 6. Green Team/Environmental Commission Booth –Community Garden, Container Gardening, Rain Garden, Native Plant Projects, Gateway to the Passaic River Anti-Idling Table – Be

part of the Hawthorne Environmental Commission/Green Team
Table – **Confirmed**

7. Composting Demonstration – Mary - **Confirmed**
 8. Hawthorne Birds – Holly & Lisa – **Confirmed**
 9. Project Medicine Box – Get literature/information for Green Team booth – Maureen Cook
 10. Electric Car - Park Ave BMW – Craig - **Confirmed**
 11. Hawthorne Shade Tree Commission – Rayna will contact Dria – **Confirmed**
 12. Reimagined Design - Stephanie **Confirmed**
 13. A Rock Solid History of Hawthorne NJ – Rosanne will contact Veronica – **Confirmed**
 14. Hawthorne Historical Society – Rosanne will contact Veronica – **Confirmed**
 15. Hawthorne Fire Department – Rosanne contacted – **Confirmed**
 16. World Paper USA/Tick Information – Alexandra – **Confirmed**
 17. Vegan Lifestyle – No farm animals; educate to promote plant based choices– **Confirmed Suggestion** - “Sustainable Eating” “Eating Healthy” “Healthy Eating Lifestyle” “Meatless Eating” Elisabeth Barker – **Confirmed**
 18. Solar Company – Craig will contact – **Confirmed** - Trinity Solar Julie Saporito-Acuna; Julia.saporito-acuna@trinity-solar.com; 732-685-1744
 19. Passaic River Coalition – Rayna will contact Laurie Howard – **Confirmed**
 20. Passaic County – Rayna contacted the Parks/Recreation dept; waiting for response; Responded by the Passaic County Health Dept and Rutgers will conduct a Health Screening – **Confirmed**
 21. Prestige Pest Services – Favio Ulloa – **Confirmed**
6. Follow-Up Vendors
1. City Green – Pat contacted “maybe” – unable to participant
 2. Goffle Brook Farm – donate vegetable seeds – Maureen will contact Donna, Owner
 3. The Learning Tree - Lisa will send an email – **Confirmed**
 4. Pilates Fusion Changed to Beyond the Fitness Studio - 973-310-3919– Holly will contact new owner – no longer in business
 5. Chet Scents – Soy Candles – Rayna/Pat will reach out to Donna – unable to reach them
 6. Hawthorne Railroad Association – Lisa will send an email – unable to reach them
 7. Cub Scouts – Kim – Rosanne contacted
 8. Girl Scouts – Lauren - Rosanne contacted
 9. Lincoln Landscaping “Native Plants” – Maureen contacted Mike – **Confirmed**
 10. Bee Habitat – Mary Kostus – Holly will text Lianna for contact information – unable to participant
 11. Yoga with Gianna – Holly will contact Gianna – unable to participant
 12. DVRT – More appropriate National Night Out in August
 13. Wildbird Unlimited – Lisa will contact Owner – unable to participant
 14. Farmer’s Market Vendors –Rob Meier

- 15. North East Jersey Beekeeper Association – Richard Stellingwerf at 201-693-2571 – Rosanne contacted – unable to reach them
- 16. Plug In EV Charger – Nick will email – **Confirmed**
- 17. Cross Fit – Wagaraw Road – Dave Whitson – demonstration – **Confirmed**

7. Tables and Chairs for event – Due to COVID, all vendors are requested to bring their own tables and chairs. Lisa will send an email to all vendors. Maureen and Rayna will bring a total of 7 tables from home for the Commission/Green Team.

8. Publicity

- 1. Press Release – Pat will work on it – Issued August 8, 2021 and Rayna will update Press Release and distribute, Facebook, Borough’s Website, Ads, Nixel, and Electric Board
- 2. Green Fair Signs – Maureen will double check on the # of signs; Need to purchase additional 10 signs – Maureen
- 3. Green Fair Flyers – Mike Mariani – Discussed/reviewed draft flyers – add the words – exhibitors, activities to the flyer; shorten the 3 statements to 2 statements; Horizontal format preferred; Mike will make 40 copies; Team will distribute flyers to local businesses the week of August 30, 2021
- 4. Special Invitations – Mayor and Council

9. Giveaways – Dog Tags and Can Opener out of recycled rubber

10. Contact Police in advance for signs and traffic control

- b. Next Virtual ZOOM Meeting: Monday August 30, 2021 at 7:30 pm – All agreed to Cancel Green Team Meeting

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.

- a. **Goals:** Preserve the natural habitat; keeping the secret places for the animals – dead wood/trees will remain on the ground/woods; keeping the bushes/berries along the trails – only pruning back the bushes; cut the bottom of the invasive plants and vines on the trees along the trails – this will stop the continue flow of water and nutrients resulting in the vines/plants will die and drop to the ground; will allow the existing trees to breathe
- b. **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; Next Step: Carol, Mary, and Mike will conduct a site visit to confirm the number of signs to purchase on Friday June 11, 2021. Completed; On June 18, 2021, Carol, Mary, and Rayna conducted another site visit to re-count the trail signs. ***Carol will provide an Update on the Number of Trail Signs that need to be Purchased-completed*** – We need to Purchase 6 Signs from the original 15 signs – (1) Warbler Way, (1) Catbird Circle, (1) Oriole View, (1) Llewellyn Lane, (1) Finch Fairway, and (1) Robin Road. **Next Step:** Rosanne will request proposals from Vacker Sign and Bernstein companies.
- c. **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. **Next Step:** Carol, Mary, and Mike will conduct a site visit to confirm the trail names on Friday June 11, 2021. Completed; On June 18, 2021, Carol, Mary, and Rayna conducted another site visit to re-confirm trails and added new trails to the map – Robin Road; Mary created a hand drawn updated Trail Map.

- d. **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 and Public Works.
- e. **Clean Up Dates** – Garbage and Recycling Materials – TBD – Late Fall of 2021
- f. **Publicity** – 8 Acre Woods Video and Press Release – Issued – Facebook, Gazette, and Tap Into Net Hawthorne

VII. Update on Issues and Commissioners Concerns, Next Step

- a. **Gateway to the Passaic River** – Maureen Cook confirmed that a garbage and recycling container is available for area. – Maureen will follow up on the status of the containers.
- b. **Polystyrene Collection Date** – Saturday October 16, 2021 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm Hawthorne Pool Parking Lot; Confirmed Haskell facility will accept polystyrene material; request 40 cubic yard and Haw Recycling pick up truck for the overflow of materials.
- c. **Spotted Laternfly** – Rayna has communicated information on Facebook

Virtual Hawthorne Environmental Commission
ZOOM Meeting
Thursday September 9, 2021 at 7:30 pm