



**Virtual Meeting
Hawthorne Environmental Commission – Minutes
September 9, 2021**

Call to Order: Rayna Laiosa, Mary Mahon, Robert Meier, Carol Robertson, Lisa DeVos, Holly Cowen, and Mike Mariani
Guests: Dawn Zagatta and Craig Cayetano

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 – August 19, 2021
Motion: Mike Mariani 2nd Motion: Robert Meier
- II. Planning Board Report – Reported by Robert Meier – Cancelled September meeting
- III. Hawthorne Water Reports – May to August 2021 reports was reviewed and discussed. All water results are fine, except for PFOA and PFOS. Hawthorne has been diligently and proactive by working on how to address PFOA and PFOS in the water; PFOA/PFOS Drinking Water Maximum Contaminant Level effective January 1, 2021; NJDEP Compliance – 4 quarters of data and take a running annual average for the year; NJDEP has been issuing notice of violations to water suppliers as early as 2nd and 3rd quarter preempting the 4 quarters of data for an average for each PFOA and PFOS; Recently, Hawthorne received notice from NJDEP and will issue a letter to all customers notifying them. At the recent Council meeting, September 1, 2021, Hawthorne awarded Boswell design contract for the PFOA/PFOS treatment system;

Boro created a PFAS webpage for our water customers - [Hawthorne Water System Update- PFAS | Hawthorne, NJ \(hawthornenj.org\)](https://www.hawthornenj.org)

IV. 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 – Fall Plants & Animal Behavior Changes – Types of Apple, applesauce, pumpkins, animals (groundhogs, squirrels, fox) getting ready for winter; getting ready for hibernation, deer awareness Sept to November change of sun setting/time change; mating season; daylight savings – Halloween?

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; \$300 Invoice
 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**
 22. The Learning Tree - Lisa will send an email – **Confirmed**
 23. Lincoln Landscaping “Native Plants” – Maureen contacted Mike – **Confirmed**
 24. Plug In EV Charger – Nick will email – **Confirmed**
 25. Cross Fit – Wagaraw Road – Dave Whitson – demonstration – **Confirmed**
6. Tables and Chairs for event – Due to COVID, all vendors are requested to bring their own tables and chairs. Lisa sent an email to all vendors. Maureen and Rayna will bring a total of 7 tables + folding chairs from home for the Commission/Green Team.
7. Green Fair – Layout – first come first serve – directing vendors to the locations – every 6 feet apart
8. Hold and Harmless Form – sent to all vendors; bring (22) extra copies to Fair – Lisa
9. Publicity
1. Press Release – Issued August 8, 2021 and August 28, 2021; Lisa posted on Facebook; Ellen/Lori posted on Borough’s Website, **Nixel, and Electric Board – Rayna will follow up**
 2. Green Fair Signs – Maureen will double check on the # of signs; Need to purchase additional 10 signs – Maureen – Will be posted the week of September 6, 2021 – Completed; Mike will check his garage if he has additional signs
 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, Rayna and Pat, distributed flyers to local businesses the week of August 30, 2021
 4. Special Invitations – Mayor and Council - Rayna – Completed
10. Giveaways – Dog Tags and Can Opener out of recycled rubber
 11. Contact Police in advance for signs and traffic control – Maureen issued a Work Order for the Police
 12. Parking – Unload only on Grand Avenue; Vendor Parking Chase Bank (adjacent to Walgreens; Jefferson Place) and Bank of America (across from the library – Lafayette Avenue)

- b. Next Virtual ZOOM Meeting: Monday September 27, 2021 at 7:30 pm – TBD
- VI. Hawthorne Day Saturday September 25, 2021
- a. Prepare and Submit Haw Day Vendor Application – Mary Mahon
 - b. Volunteers Needed for Event 10 – 12; 12 to 2, 2 to 4; and 4 to 6 – Lisa will send out an email.
 - c. 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
 - 8. Spotted Lanternfly Information
 - 9. Deer – Blue Tongue Disease Information
 - d. 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;
 - e. Small table for giveaways – Spinning wheel - Rayna
 - f. Giveaways – Rosanne – light necklaces and bracelets; something small; no plastics; \$200
- VII. Polystyrene Collection Date – Saturday October 16, 2021 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm Hawthorne Pool Parking Lot; Rain Date Saturday October 23, 2021
- a. Confirmed Haskell facility will accept polystyrene material;
 - b. Request 40 cubic yard and Haw Recycling pick up truck for the overflow of materials.
 - c. Flyer – Reviewed draft flyer; Mike Mariani will make it better and clearer
- VIII. Container Gardening Green Challenge – 2 participants – Gift Certificates for the recipients; Announcement Sunday September 19, 2021 at 11:00 am
- IX. 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

X. 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. – Confirmed Garbage and Recycling containers were placed at the Gateway; not sure about the status as a result of Hurricane Ida's flooding of the Passaic River. Rayna confirmed Sept 8, 2021 – trail sign and rain garden sign no damage; metal garbage container is still there.

Virtual Hawthorne Environmental Commission

ZOOM Meeting

Thursday October 14, 2021 at 7:30 pm