

## CAPE MAY POINT ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Borough Hall

April 8, 2020

Start Time: 10:00 am

End Time: 10:54 am

EC Members participating by teleconference due to Covid-19:

(X) Sandy Allison

(X) Paula Massanari

(X) Barb Bassett

(X) Commissioner Robert Mullock

(X) Catherine Busch, Chair

(X) Isabelle Neary

(X) Jamie Goren, Vice Chair - via phone

(X) Emelia Oleson

Others present: Helen Chezem, Joseph & Joanne Marra, Connie Campanella

### AGENDA

Sunshine Law Statement – This meeting was properly advertised in the Cape May Star & Wave and duly posted at the Borough Municipal Bldg in accordance with Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

**Minutes:** On motion of JG, seconded by BB the minutes of March 11, 2020 were unanimously approved.

**Correspondence:** None

#### Reports:

- **Lake Lily** - The plants installed last fall are budding and look to be in good condition. No fishing signs have been added.
- **Triangle Park** - The butterfly garden portion has been readied for spring planting; mulch day is cancelled.
- **Beach** - The beaches are currently closed. The Spring Beach Clean-up has been cancelled. The annual survey of beaches by Stockton has commenced.
- **Bike Path** - no report
- **Green Team** - The Pledge to Support NJ Wildlife is on the agenda at the April 9 Borough meeting. The Sustainable Jersey deadline for recertification has been pushed back to June 14.
- **Commissioner Liaison** - Not present at this time. CB reported that Mullock mentioned a letter from Friends of Lake Lily with questions that he may bring to EC for input. **Planning Board** - The meeting will take place by videoconference. See new business.

#### Old Business:

- ANJEC Open Space Grant application
- New Jersey Audubon Proposal: Invasive Plant Management at Triangle Park
- CB provided an update on both items, working with IN on project, have sent draft to NJA & Steve O'Connor for input. The grant deadline is pushed back to May 6.

#### New Business:

- CB first explained the purpose of the next two items on the agenda and the process through which the EC reviews applications before the PB for comment on

environmental concerns. The usual subcommittee was not available to review due to Covid-19.

- **EC comment on PB 2020-02 (502 Oak Ave.)** - CB presented an overview of the variance application and upon discussion and input from all, it was agreed that there are no environmental concerns with this application.
- **EC comment on PB 2020-03 (209 Ocean Ave.)** - CB presented an overview of the subdivision application and upon discussion and input from all, it was agreed that the Eastern Red Cedars should be preserved and protected during construction; the Southern Catalpa street trees should be preserved where possible; the sidewalk should be repaired or removed; and the 19th century cast-iron fence should be preserved or made available for another historic property in the Borough. CB will draft a letter and circulate it before submitting to the Planning Board for next week's meeting.

**Announcements:** CB informed members of free webinars on gardening for pollinators.

**Public Portion:**

Helen Chezem reported a conversation with Mullock regarding an epoxy that could be used to hold the rock wall together; she will send the information. She also commented her support for the first PB application discussed which is that of her neighbor.

Joseph & Joanne Marra thanked the EC for their decision regarding no environmental concerns on their application and provided more details on their project.

Connie Campanella provided additional information on Triangle Park. The weeding volunteers will work in shifts and planting the boat will take place with appropriate social distance. The rocks were removed from the edge and native plants will be added to extend the garden to the road.

**Commissioner Liaison:** Bob Mullock joined the meeting and provided an update on the bulkhead project; he is not certain when the remaining plants will be installed. He explained preparations made by Public Works staff regarding Covid-19. He also explained his reasons for allowing the Cape May Bird Observatory to continue its migration project, Springwatch, at the Coral platform despite the beach and walkways/platforms closure due to Covid-19. BB thanked him for doing this.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by SA. second by JG 10:54 AM