

CAPE MAY POINT ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Borough Hall
January 8, 2020

Start Time: 10:00 am

End Time: 11:42 am

EC Members present:

(X) Sandy Allison – via phone
(X) Barb Bassett
(X) Catherine Busch, Chair
(X) Jamie Goren, Vice Chair

(X) Paula Massanari
() Commissioner Robert Mullock
() Isabelle Neary
(X) Emelia Oleson – via phone

Others present Lynn Smith

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: There were none to approve. CB announced it was the last meeting that Elaine Wallace would not be recording secretary. CB will speak with Commissioner Mullock about how to hire someone new.

Correspondence: None

Reports:

- **Lake Lily** – PM reported Dick Saari sent the Commissioners an email about Friends of Lake Lily entering a 2020 contract with Solitude Lake Management. CB reported the Commissioners had a closed session discussion and the matter was in their hands now. The planting for the Borough's Lake Lily project is finished for the winter. Mulch was put down in the area that was added after the initial project was awarded. There was discussion about the wall, which Commissioner Mullock previously reported he didn't like. He anticipates redoing the wall in-house in the spring. Lynne Smith commented on the amount of sod placed in one area. CB advised that area wasn't part of the original plan. She also advised Public Works plans to hire a seasonal gardener in 2020 to maintain all public areas.
- **Triangle Park** – CB reported IN volunteered to cochair since EG left. She still planned to apply for an ANJEC open space grant of \$1,500 for removal of invasive plants, signs, and enhancements to the park.
- **Beach** – EO hadn't yet set dates for 2020 beach cleanups.
- **Bike Path** – nothing
- **Green Team** – did not meet this month
- **Commissioner Liaison** – none
- **Planning Board** – CB reported materials were distributed by the historic preservation subcommittee. She believed Mr. Kinney will be speaking at the January meeting. JG reported the session is informational for the PB members. Mr. Kinney will return for a public presentation. The meeting will be videotaped and posted on the Borough's website.

Old Business:

- Landscaping and Vegetation Ordinance & Tree Protection: Nothing new to report yet. CB met with Commissioner vanHeeswyk so far. Mrs. vanHeeswyk will follow up with Zoning Officer John McGraw.

New Business:

- Meeting dates 2020: After some discussion on the day and time of the meetings, the majority of members preferred to keep the day and time the same. CB will prepare schedule and distribute.
- Green Team Action – Pledge Supporting NJ Wildlife Action Plan discussion: Previously, a member of the Green Team presented this action item to the EC as one they would like to pursue. The EC appointed CB and BB to work on it. CB handed out a sample resolution, a chart of endangered species known to be found or could be found in Cape May Point that the Borough may wish to protect on public lands, and a draft wildlife management plan. There was discussion about maintaining the wrack line on the beach during spring and fall migration because birds feed on it. There was also discussion about feral and outdoor cats depleting bird species, fishing being prohibited on the lake, and the dangers of people using herbicides and pesticides on their properties because they wash into the lake through the storm drains. How to educate the public about these issues was also discussed. PM offered to address some of these issues as the author of the Friends of Lake Lily quarterly report in the Taxpayers Newsletter. SA asked why Pavilion Circle wasn't included in the plan. CB explained it is more of a public recreational area than wildlife habitat, but if added, then native plants could be encouraged to support wildlife, pollinators and songbirds. The membership was in favor of allowing CB and BB to revise the documents, based on this discussion, and then submit them to the governing body without bringing them back to the EC.

Announcements: BB reported that 156 species of birds, plants, etc. have been identified in Triangle Park using iNaturalist. JG commented that dog poop is an environmental hazard, as is people who take the time to bag it, but then leave the bag out. CB suggested it would be a good thing to put in the bulletin. It was determined that there would not be a quorum in February, so the meeting schedule will begin with March.

Public Portion: None

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by BB, seconded by JG, PM 11:42 am