

CAPE MAY POINT ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

July 14, 2021 – 10 am

Start Time 10:00

End Time 11:47

EC Members present:

(X) Sandy Allison

(X) Paula Massanari

(X) Barb Bassett, Chair

(X) Isabelle Neary

(X) Commissioner Catherine Busch

(X) Emelia Oleson

(X) Elise Geiger

(X) Carol Sowers

Others present Chris Meyerink, Stephanie Maggio, Mary Kelly

AGENDA

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

Minutes: The minutes from June 9, 2021, were unanimously approved after a motion by PM and seconded by EO.

Reports:

- **Lake Lily:** CB reported that she is working with Clean-Flo to review the water treatments. They have an aquatic biologist on staff. The amount of vegetation in a lake varies between 20-40% depending on its use. For example, 20% is the target when a lake is used for swimming. Lake Lily's purpose is to help prevent flooding in the town. An update will be issued in the Fall. It will take 2-3 years for the Clean-Flo treatments of the muck to work. These will also reduce decay and reduce the possibility of algae blooms.
- **Triangle Park:** CB asked for EC input on dead cedar trees in Triangle Park. Pictures taken by BB were reviewed. Will be contacting New Jersey Audubon and Rutgers Extension Service for information. EC agreed with hiring an arborist to evaluate the trees. Discussed possible reasons for the trees dying, including soil pH change and saltwater intrusion.
- **Beach:** Jeff Sowers contacted BB to present the Dune Day plan to the EC for comment. It was prepared by Jonathan Westcott. The EC reviewed the plan and recommended to the Commissioners that the 2021 Dune Day plan be approved along with the following comments:
 - It was a comprehensive and well laid out plan.
 - If possible, use the dead bayberries that will be removed, to catch and build up sand in the dunes.
 - It does not appear that activity will take place in the dunes along Crystal Ave between Alexander and Stites. This is good because this area is targeted for invasives removal in the Fall.

BB will communicate this information to the Commissioners. SA and PM volunteered to write a formal thank-you to Jonathan for his work on the plan.

- **Green Team:** Nothing new to report.
- **Commissioner Liaison:** CB relayed that the storm drains have been cleaned. It is not currently necessary to reduce the level of Lake Lily. Public Works have been trimming trees in the borough where necessary. This year there has been an increase in the sale of beach tags. Unfortunately, a full-

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time public works person has quit. The sidewalks and curbing throughout the borough will be reviewed.

- **Planning Board:** The June 16th meeting was cancelled.

Old Business:

- **Mayor's Monarch Pledge:** IN and PM discussed a poster design for the MMP. It was suggested that it include a list of some native nectar producing plants. SA emailed an example list to everyone. The poster will be reviewed at the August meeting.
All the milkweed plants were given away.
- **Invasives at the Pavilion Circle:** Another workday will be scheduled shortly.

New Business:

- Dune Day Plan – See Beach update.
- In person meetings? It was decided to continue to conduct the meetings via Zoom.

Announcements:

EO contacted the NJDEP Department of Forestry concerning the Salem Oak seedling. They sent her a form to fill out. BB will complete and email the form to them. Ideas for placement of the seedling will be discussed at the next meeting.

Public Portion

The public portion was opened at 11:43 am. No one from the public participated.

Adjournment A motion to adjourn was made by IN and seconded by PM at 11:47am.

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