

CAPE MAY POINT ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

June 8, 2022 – 10:00 am

Start Time: 10:02 am

End Time: 11:28 pm

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

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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of IN, seconded by PM, the minutes of May 11, 2022 were approved.

ON-GOING BUSINESS

- Pavilion Circle Update:
 - EG shared that volunteers have continued to work in Pavilion Circle. Plantings seem to be doing well. She will be asking the CMPTA to put in the biweekly newsletter that there is a need for volunteers to assist with the beds.
 - There is a work date planned for 8:30 am on June 27th. CB will bring volunteer forms in the event anyone new would like to sign up.
 - EG asked if the trees at Lake Lily require water collars to which CB replied she will have PW take a look at them.
 - EG closed by stating that several people from the community have donated native plantings to Pavilion Circle.
- Mayors' Monarch Pledge:
 - IN shared that the milkweed in Pavilion Circle will satisfy the requirement for action item #4 in the MMP. PM suggested an article be created and sent to the community to serve as proof for the action.
 - Monarchs have already been seen around the Point this month.
- Salem Oak:
 - BB shared her screen so the group could see photos of the Salem Oak from when it was first received up to now. It remains at her property, and EG agreed to water it the following Tuesday. Next year we will determine where to plant.
- Commissioner Liaison:
 - PW planted multiple trees at Lake Lily and Pavilion Circle. They have water collars and the irrigation system waters three times per week. Ray from PW checks the progress of our plantings almost daily. CB will follow up to determine if we need more water collars.
 - Over the summer CB wants to see us mulch around the trees because grass competes for nutrients, but we need to be mindful that too much mulch can actually harm or kill the trees by rotting the trunk.
 - Cleanflow's report on Lake Lily stated that oxygen levels in the lake were good. Separately, we received donations from the Friend's of Lake Lily to help support our efforts there.

- SA asked if there were hoses available at Lake Lily to help with watering the trees. CB said she would speak to Bill Gibson of PW and ask.
- EG asked CB if she filed the grant for the forestry plan. Elaine Wallace will be submitting shortly.
- CB stated that a resolution was passed that would allow us to request from the State that we create a nonprofit tree fund, and that we will be working on a borough web page related to the trusts to better highlight the nonprofit causes.
- Green Team:
 - BB stated that the focus of the July meeting would be to discuss GT activities.

NEW BUSINESS

- IN volunteered to go to two local nurseries to review their available stock of stepping stones, which were requested for a bed in Pavilion Circle. CB confirmed the purpose of the stones is more for gardeners who are working versus a walking path for the general public.
- The group reviewed a presentation created by IN with photos of a variety of stone types, designs, colors, size and price.
- After discussing all of the options, the majority of the EC members stated they would prefer a natural stone in the grey color category. As a next step, BB suggested that everyone digest the information and if they were interested, they should go to the landscaping companies to see the stones themselves. She thanked IN for all of her work in gathering this information.

CORRESPONDENCE

- None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- PM wrote an article on mosquitoes that was distributed through a borough email newsletter. This article was also posted on the website.
- SA summarized the Atlantic City Electric presentation arranged by the Civic Club. Twenty-three people attended the event where ACE discussed smart meters, the substation upgrades near Swain's, and the customer rebate program for proper disposal of refrigerators and air conditioning units. CB stated that we could add information related to this on our website.
- BB shared that Carol Sowers has resigned from the EC.

PUBLIC PORTION/ADJOURNMENT

On motion of IN, seconded by PM, the meeting was opened to the public. When no one else wished to speak, the meeting was adjourned on motion of IN, seconded by EG.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly L. Redington, Deputy Clerk