

CAPE MAY POINT ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

January 11, 2023 – 10 am

Start Time: 10:01 am

End Time: 10:52 am

EC Members present:

(x) Sandy Allison

() Peg Fratz

(x) Paula Massanari

(x) Elise Geiger

(x) Barb Bassett, Chair

(x) Isabelle Neary

(x) Commissioner Catherine Busch

(x) Emelia Oleson

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 EG, seconded by EO, the minutes of December 14, 2022 were approved.

ON-GOING BUSINESS

- Pavilion Circle: Work continues to be paused until March 2023. EG stated that we need to start thinking about plants now to ensure they are ordered earlier in the season this year. EG, BB and CB will meet at 10am Tuesday of next week to walk the area and discuss.

EG said the boat in Triangle Park looks askew following the county traffic calming work that is taking place at the intersection of Coral and Lighthouse Avenues. CB said they are still working in that area and we should wait for it to conclude before moving anything.

CB had told everyone at the last meeting that PW was taking down vines in Pavilion Circle, but a rumor started that PW was cutting down cedar trees. No cedar trees were removed; two cedar branches were cut down because they were choked by vines. Mayor Moffatt also addressed this rumor at a public meeting stating that residents can attend the EC meetings or review the minutes to be aware of what work is taking place.

- Mayors' Monarch Pledge: BB and Mayor Moffatt discussed the MMP and decided that they will continue to support the pledge with clerical support from the EC Secretary. BB thanked PM and IN for their service the past two years.

- Commissioner Liaison:

- CB stated that she is not sure how long the county traffic calming project will continue for. If anyone has questions, Administrator Ed Grant is handling the project and is the Borough contact.
- In December the Commissioners approved a contract for Hartwood Ecological, the community tree plan consultant. CB plans to coordinate a walk with the consultant in February to begin the process.
- SA asked how we are paying for the consultant, to which CB replied that we are covering the cost with a grant from the state and a bequest from Megane Smith. The contract is for the plan, not for a period of time.
- SA asked if there is a plan to put trees at Lake Lily in the area of Lighthouse and Lake Drive. CB stated we have no irrigation there, but we could consider adding something in the fall. We could also leave this area open so that people can easily view waterfowl. CB said she will have the consultant look at the area.

CAPE MAY POINT ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

- Green Team: Last meeting, we discussed BB leading a nature walk in January. The group determined that January 28 is the best day. EG made a flyer which can be posted around the neighborhood. The walk will be weather permitting starting at the south end of Lake Lily.

CB spoke to representatives for SNJ about the activities we were working on that are no longer categories for points. They informed CB that they will allow us to submit these items during this cycle. CB said we have 90 of 150 points and it appears to be more reachable than we thought a month ago. We have until the end of February for the first submission date. The EC Secretary will support CB and BB in uploading our actions to the SNJ website.

NEW BUSINESS

- BB spoke to Mayor Moffatt about banning gas powered leaf blowers for commercial landscapers. BB will research what other towns are doing.
- During a recent cold snap BB was afraid that the Salem Oak would freeze because it is in a pot, so it was moved inside a garage. EO suggested using the consultant to make some recommendations about planting this year, including protective fencing.

PUBLIC PORTION/ADJOURNMENT

On motion of PM, seconded by EG, the meeting was opened to the public. When no one wished to speak, EO made the motion to adjourn at 10:52 AM. This was seconded by SA.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly L. Redington, EC Secretary