



Eatontown Environmental Commission
47 Broad Street
Eatontown, New Jersey 07724

Anthony Talerico - Mayor

Laura Bagwell - Chair

MINUTES OF 27 April 2021 REGULAR MEETING

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting, held over Zoom, was called to order at 7: 07PM. Meeting held in compliance with open public meeting act

ROLL CALL:

Member	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Laura Bagwell	x	x	x	x								
Jess Buck	x		x	x								
Steve Fratini	x	x	x	x								
Ken Kretsch	x	x	x	x								
Mark Regan, Jr ¹	x	x	x	x								
Mark Regan, Sr ²	x	x	x	x								

Guests: Wanna Smith,

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING(s):

Ken moved to approve March minutes; Steve seconded. Motion passed unanimously

AGENDA ITEMS:

Issue	Discussion	Action
April Training	3/24/21 Watershed Institute "Monitoring Development in your Town" 4/6/21 NOFAMass "Wild Edibles and Medicinal"	

¹ Council liaison

² Planning Board liaison

	Plants” 4/11/21 “Climate Change & Climate Risk”, Jan Dash, PhD 4/12/21 ANJEC “Open Space Protection” 4/13/21 Jersey Yards, “Spotted Lanternfly”, Paul Kurtz, entomologist with NJ Dept of Agriculture 4/14/21 Watershed Institute “Green Infrastructure” training 4/19/21 Native Plant Society “Rain Gardens” 4/26/21 Sierra Club's “PFAS”	
Pollinator Garden Challenge	Laura reported that the existing pollinator garden can be expanded – met w/ Mayor and CG chair Candace to discuss expansion. Steve said Lisa Wilson have plants to share Steve has a new garden at his home. Laura reported interest in Pollinator plant swap in May to promote people starting or expanding their pollinator garden. More to come.	
ANJEC	Laura participated in the ANJEC "Earth Day Celebration & Fair" on April 22.	Many local environmental commissions had virtual booths at the fair. EEC should consider next year.
IT	Discussed EEC Facebook page. Attached is current EEC IT Platform	

LIAISON REPORTS

Complete Streets (Liaison: Steve)	Discussed a grant proposal to AARP for 2-seated bicycles. Unfortunately they are too expensive and large wheeled chairs similar to what are seen at the beach are being considered along with a shed at the Meadowbrook housing for storage	
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Community Garden (Liaison: Steve)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are currently 41 garden applications (including 7 new people), with several applications having requests for several plots. • There will be a mini-library in the community garden. • There will be a weekly drop-off to the food pantry (there is a volunteer to make the drop-off). Two plots will be donated to the food pantry. • The plan is to install a beehive in the community garden around mid-May. • The EEC has arranged for the community garden to get a rain barrel. <p>There is a porta-john across the street at husky Brook Park</p>	
FMERA (Liaison: Laura)	Laura reported on the April meeting. Two Oceanport project site plan reviews were presented. Will send a report to attach to the minutes, as much was discussed.	
Green Team (Liaison: Laura)	Three new members were appointed to the Green Team in March: Vanessa Scaramucich, Dee Slattery and Roy Eisen. Green team is considering hosting a recycling Workshop DPW	
Shade Tree (Liaison TBD)		

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Open space	Committee is considering Wildlife plan. Other projects under consideration: an effort to connect all of our parks. For example a greenway from Husky Brook Park to Wyckoff Road and a A wildlife sanctuary	Steve, Laura, and Mark and to meet offline about Open Space Plan
Land Use (Chair: Ken)	Laura reported next week's PB is Eat Clean Bro...	

	<p>The mall is asking to be designated “land in need of redevelopment”. The decision is planning board’s and then forward it to the council via the Borough attorney</p> <p>Discussion of the legislation proposed by state senator Sweeney to control the number of warehouses built in the state, specifically those warehouses that are built on the outskirts of the municipality who's traffic and noise would affect adjacent municipalities.</p>	
Solid Waste	TBD	
Air and Water	TBD	

NEW/OLD BUSINESS

	Laura reported that she requested 250 LED bulbs. Discussed with Councilwoman Escalante and will distribute to Meadowbrook Senior Housing.	
Invasive Species Strike Team training	This has been scheduled for 5/22 with two Master Gardeners. It will be held completely OUTSIDE in the Arboretum.	
Watershed Solidarity Clean up at Popamora Park	5/8/21 from 10- Noon. Watershed solidarity clean up Popamora Point Beach in Highlands / Atlantic Highlands.	
Beautify Etown Clean up – 36/Grant EEC / Green Team spot	<p>4/18/21 from 1-4pm. Beautify clean up. EEC adopted the spot on Grant / Rte 36. Laura reported it went well and the spot was really cleaned up of trash as well as snipped the vegetation back to reveal the sidewalk and made it look presentable.</p> <p>Discussion on disputed territory as who has responsibility for that spot, it is the state? Believe so. Laura can draft a letter to DOT to see if this</p>	Laura will write a letter to send to DOT, CC’ed to county DOT, dot, Senator Gopal, Congressman Smith, or county freeholders

	can be maintained, connected for complete streets connectivity.	
Shrewsbury EC / Parker's Creek Clean up	4/24/2021 from 8:30-10:30. Laura reported she attended the Shrewsbury EC meeting on 4/14/21 and pitched the idea of a joint clean up at the jug handle by Parker's Creek. Attendees: included Council liaison to Shrewsbury EC, and Robin, Jill, Laura and Walt and his 3 children. (photo)	
Hummingbird Talk	3/30/21 7pm. EEC zoom: "Inviting Hummingbirds To Your Garden"	
Rain Barrel Workshop	4/17/21 Noon -2pm: It went well. Made one for the Community Garden.	

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 8:54PM. Next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 25 2021 at 7:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Kretsch

Eatontown Environmental Commission