

# **Town of Clinton Environmental Commission**

## **Meeting**

**Online, March 8, 2021, 7:30 pm**

## **Minutes**

### General

1. 7:37 pm: Roll Call – Michael Humphrey, Véronique Lambert, John Kashwick, Rebecca Walters, Dean Solomos
2. Review / approve minutes from meeting on December 14, 2020 – vote to approve - 3 ayes (Mike, John and Véronique) and 2 abstaining votes (Rebecca and Dean)
3. Introduce new EC members – Rebecca and Dean
  - a. Mike gave overview of role of EC in Clinton

### Old Business

1. Raritan Headwaters river cleanup – Saturday, April 17; two clean-up sites in Clinton – Site 7 at Red Mill and Site 7A at Hunts Mill, each capped at 25 people. Véronique volunteered to lead 7A site for corporate volunteers – Mike will notify Raritan Headwaters Association. Mike and John have already registered. Rebecca will join but not register to leave space open for other volunteers.

### New Business

1. Project ideas for 2021–
  - a. Circulate information about controlling spotted lantern flies before they become winged adults. Repost John's article with added information about control measures – like making traps. Rebecca will share website from Penn State Extension that has instructions for making trap.
  - b. Revisit Sustainable Jersey certification – Véronique will send info to EC members and give them access to online application. We could apply for Sustainable Jersey grants before being certified; next deadline for grant applications is April 9.
  - c. Promote recycling information to town residents
  - d. Education effort to encourage residents to adopt renewable energy (solar); promote energy efficient incentives; audit of street lights; put together a proposal to merchants' guild to replace Christmas lights with LED bulbs that are energy efficient and also less harmful to trees.
2. Marriott Phase 2 and 3 Plans – postponed review of these plans. Need to first get more information about history of site plan review and prior approvals for this site. Mike will ask Mayor Janice Kovach to come to a meeting and give us an overview. We are holding March 22 and March 29 as possible dates to meet with Janice. We should provide comments to Land Use Board in time for the hearing tentatively scheduled for April 16.

3. Update from Town Council – Michael Humphrey –
  - a. State Legislature wants to pass law that if pilot development gets alternative taxes (lower taxes on front end and higher taxes on back end) then it will have to pay prevailing wages on all work done on project. NJ League of Municipalities is against it. Clinton council has passed resolution stating opposition to it. The law would make it cost prohibitive to do re-development projects like Agway.
  - b. Approved new surface to be installed on basketball court. Playground project is being chopped up into smaller pieces – tennis courts will be done later.
4. Update from Land Use Board – no liaison
5. Update from Shade Tree Commission – John Kashwick – submitted annual report and if approved, Clinton will be designated tree city USA for 37<sup>th</sup> year.

Rebecca offered to take minutes at next meeting.

Adjourned – 9:23 pm

#### **Zoom Meeting Credentials**

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