

Town of Clinton Environmental Commission

Meeting

Online, May 10 2021, 7:30 pm

Minutes

Start at 7:40 pm

General

1. Roll Call – Michael Humphrey, Dean Solomos, Rebecca Walters, Véronique Lambert
2. Review minutes from April 12, 2021 meeting – motion to approve; all ayes.

Old Business

1. Recap of River Clean-Up (and town's trash collection) – Event was held on Saturday, April 17, 2021. 32 full bags of garbage and recycling were collected (recycling was disposed of as trash), as well as a large pile of large unbaggageable trash – tires, toilet. Do we want to address trash and recycling containers? Problem with wind-blown materials from trash and recycling receptacles on collection days. We should also educate residents on the need for covered receptacles. Look to other towns for ideas on different collection systems and bins. Also consider how the expense of new heavy duty bins would be covered, and how to reduce cost of trash disposal to town. Currently, there is no limit on large and heavy items and the town pays by weight.
2. Sustainable Jersey certification – 1st application deadline is June 6. Veronique will go over the program and the application with Rebecca. Mike will look at the communications actions.
3. Storm water Green Infrastructure - Rebecca is following up with 2 local churches to see if there is any interest. Mike suggests installing a rain garden at municipal building with donations from local businesses. Also reach out to Highlands Council and Rutgers for expertise in design of site and to Clinton Conservancy Gardens, Denise Birmingham, for help with installation. Rebecca noticed that the community center is another good location to install a rain garden. The down spouts from the building should be redirected to drain to gardens rather than to street. It was agreed that the EC should do walks around town to take note of issues that need to be addressed. Next meeting will be walking meeting on June 7, 6:30 pm. Meet at Municipal Building.

New Business

1. Update from Town Council – Michael Humphrey – Council is very interested in green infrastructure but Mike was not able to get Rutgers or Highlands Council to do presentation for them.

2. Update from Land Use Board – Rebecca Walters – Met on May 4, 2021. Puleo plan was approved except for the sign variance; Deegan Roofing was approved to put office in old auto repair shop; sober living units/group home was approved for property next to Shell gas station.
3. Update from Shade Tree Commission – Mike Humphrey - Planted and dedicated white oak tree in Hunts Mill Park to Frank Hooper who passed away last year. He had started the Clinton Christmas Parade and the town picnic.

9:27 pm - Motion to adjourn – all ayes