

**Town of Clinton
Environmental Commission
Meeting Minutes for May 15, 2023, at 7:30 PM**

Attendees

Kim Stentz, Mary Jo Kurtiak, John Kashwick, Norma Kania, Veronique Lambert, Dean Solomos.
Absent: Ken Carberry.

John called the meeting to order at 7:46 PM.

Motion to approve the minutes for April 17 was moved by Kim and seconded by Dean and passed unanimously.

Council

- John reported that the Council passed a resolution encouraging the state legislature to pass a bill creating an invasive species task force.
- John submitted two articles to the newsletter—one on dark skies and fireflies and one on the revived Green Team.
- John attended the Senate Environment and Energy Committee meeting this morning in Trenton where the committee vote 4-0-1 pass the bill permitting the burning of Christmas trees for Yuletide festivals.
- John, Mary Jo, and Pat met with the Business Administrator to discuss the Green Maintenance Policy. They asked that we come up with areas that they don't need to mow rather than participating in No Mow May.

Land Use

- Ken was not present, but John reported that the hearing on the Moebus Tract has been postponed again until June 20.
- There are no site plans to review.

Shade Tree

- Kim reported that there was a successful Arbor Day celebration on April 28. Dan Shea was honored.
- Two white oaks were planted at Hunts Mills Park and a maple on Halstead Street.
- Denise handed out saplings to the 3rd graders in attendance.

Green Team

- John submitted the Sustainable Jersey application for the 2nd round due May 12. We needed to hit 2 priority items and have action items in 6 different categories totaling at least 150 points. In our application, we submitted 3 priority actions and 8 categories totaling 175 points. I know several of these are not complete, based on the criteria provided, so we are not going to get certified with this submission. However, we will get feedback on our items and hopefully be in a good position to get bronze-certified after the final submission for this year on July 27. Green Team Update.

- John confirmed that the Green Team will be holding a film screening of “Sacred Dark Night” at the Red Mill on Saturday, June 24 at 8 PM. The 16 minute film will be followed by discussion and Q&A with the filmmaker Jared Flesher and then a walk on the Landsdown Trail to view the fireflies.
- Clinton Town and High Bridge will be partnering with Clinton Township on their Green Fair and EV Car Show in Bundt Park on July 9 from 11 AM – 2 PM. Clinton Green Team can help out by promoting the event, recruiting vendors, and helping with onsite registration and setup. John, Mary Jo, and Norma are available to help out that day and Veronique might be available. Veronique reported that we might be able get credit for last year’s Green Fair because we help out then too.
- Everyone should “Like” the Town of Clinton Green Team Facebook page. If anyone wants to be added as a administrator in order to be able to post, please let John know.
- Norma is organizing a paper shredding day sponsored by Weichert Realtors for some time in June. She is setting it up in away that the Town can get points through Sustainable Jersey.

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

John Kashwick