

**Town of Clinton
Environmental Commission
Meeting Minutes for August 21, 2023, at 7:30 PM**

Attendees

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

Administrative Matters

- John called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm on Zoom.
- Motion to approve the minutes for July 17 was moved by Mary Jo and seconded by Veronique and passed unanimously.
- There was no correspondence.

Council Liaison (John)

- As was asked at the last meeting, John inquired about emergency service notifications other than social media. John found out that the County sends out emergency alerts through text.

Land Use Board (Ken)

- Ken was not able to attend but sent an email update that the Land Use Board meetings have been consumed by Moebius and will be for some time to come.
- There is an issue with a change of use application that will be heard as well, that has no bearing on any environmental issues.

Shade Tree Commission Liaison Report (Kim)

- The Commission held a tree identification walk at its last meeting which was held on the Landsdown Trail.
- Tree removals in the Knolls are moving forward. JCP&L already removed the trees that they planned on removing and we are just waiting on a tree service to take down the others
- The Commission is working on a memorial tree policy to post on the website.

Green Team

- The Green Team met at 7 PM just prior to the Environmental Commission meeting.
- We are expecting to hear back on the final submission for the Sustainable Jersey application.
- The Green Team discussed other issues/projects it can be working on while awaiting a decision by Sustainable Jersey:
 - Mary Jo brought up better solutions for garden waste. She was told she needs to dispose of pine cones in plastic bag for collection on trash day.
 - There was discussion of the condition of the South Branch and the amount of invasive aquatic plants that have proliferated in recent years. Mary Jo will follow-up with Raritan Headwaters to see what things we might be able to do.

- John brought up a couple of things the Green Team could work on. With fall approaching, an educational effort to “Leave the Leaves” would be timely. We also discussed an award program we could give out for something like the most wildlife friendly lawn.
- Norma is working on the Buy Local campaign for the weekend of Thanksgiving
- Mary Jo suggested a table at the Farmers Market.
- John mentioned that the GoHunterdon breakfast will be on Friday, September 22 if anyone else wants to attend. Chief Cory Kubiak is being honored for his efforts on pedestrian safety.

Other Items

- Mary Jo inquired about the recycling/trash containers around town. Some are mislabeled. She is going to reach out the Rich Phelan.
- John mentioned that we have a potential new member. He was not able to attend tonight because of a business meeting but will try to attend next time.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted.

John Kashwick