

Pennington Borough Environmental Commission
Meeting Minutes for April 18th, 7:30 pm
Zoom Virtual

Attending: Brian Friedlich, Andrew Jackson, Joann Held, Nancy Fishman, Kit Chandler (Borough Council) Daniel Boone (BOH), Meredith Moore (Library Board of Trustees)

1. Public comment

None: Meredith Moore attending to hear about PEC activities.

2. Review of past minutes- March 2022

Spelling correction for Gregg Rackin

- a) Motion to Approve – Joann
- b) Second - Andrew

3. Administrative Items

- a) PEC website needs updating – names are incorrect.
- b) Mona is working part time for Borough as office administrator – can help with the website.

4. ERI Update/Mapping (Friedlich-Chandler)

- a) Discussed Draft ERI Review Status
- b) Discussed Watershed Institute Review and Recommendations Section – adding this to all sections could delay publication of document.
- c) Discussed Option to involve consultant for production of Final ERI
 - i. There is currently no budget available for the ERI.
 - ii. Add section summarizing Impervious Cover Assessment.
 - iii. Discussed purpose of ERI – Planning tool for PEC, Planning Board and Council.
 - iv. Kit previously met with someone from ANJEC – we could send to ANJEC for assistance options.
 - v. Kit to reach out to Borough Planner – Jim Kyle to discuss if they are able to assist in finalizing the ERI and what budget would be needed.

vi. It was noted that Sustainable Jersey has recommendations for ERIs.

5. Landfill Property Update (Friedlich-Chandler)

- a) Wells have been completed.
- b) Consultant is finishing up field work - may get a report by end of May.

6. Arboretum Update (Chandler)

- a) Arboretum committee met to discuss next steps for Arboretum.
- b) Will be meeting with school to discuss fence between school property and the Arboretum property.

7. Borough Council Report (Chandler)

- a) Nancy will be helping with EV charger grant, working with Mona.
- b) Betty was asking about where charger would be. Closer to the building would be cheaper for PSEG to setup. Need to be careful about the costs to Borough.
- c) Our chances of getting this grant are small since we will be ranked in lower tier. Joann noted that whatever we put together could be used for future grant opportunities.
- d) It was noted that this installation could be useful for Carbon Neutral initiative.
- e) ANJEC Stormwater RSIS Resolution Status - Watershed Institute presented at Council Meeting. Resolution to be voted on in May council meeting.

8. Planning/Zoning Board Report

- a) No new applications
- b) John Flemming discussed potential lease for bank in center of town at meeting for medical arts organization – not an approved use. No environmental issues.
- c) Master Plan Revision Update – received 2 proposals from Planner for full update and re-examination. Want to start with re-examination. Effort will be mainly by consultant – Planning Board will discuss and provide advice on what will be provided as part of update. \$10,350 approved for re-examination.

- d) Eight field walks are planned through Borough.
- e) Discussion on how redevelopment sites will be handled as part of the Master Plan Update. Discussion on various historic/potential redevelopment sites in Borough.

9. Green Team and Sustainable Jersey Update (Held)

- a) This week is Hopewell Valley Green Week, April 18 to 24 – activities in schools
- b) LHT developed an introduction to the part of LHT in Hopewell Valley and the access points. They have a map with parking areas.
- c) Could have trail map on PEC website.
- d) Joann reviews the planned events for Green Week
- e) Repair café on Saturday – 12 to 3 at High School in Community Room
- f) Greening Together – week after Green Week (Mercer County Sustainability Coalition).
- g) Borough wide yard sale on May 14th.

10. Carbon Neutral Workgroup (Held)

- a) Meeting to be held in April.

11. Other Business

- a) Pennington Day Booth (May 21st)
 - i. Joann has weights for the tent.
 - ii. Nancy reached out to ANJEC – has 2 games. One game is about plastics – Plinko Game.
 - iii. PEC has a vertical banner with a stand
 - iv. Joann has handouts - 8.5x11 posters about the plastic ban.
 - v. Petition for No. 5 plastics in Mercer County? Sign-up sheet at Pennington Day Booth.
 - vi. Coloring books, seed packets, etc.
 - vii. Will be notified about booth location by Wed, May 18th
 - viii. Need talking points around plastic, bags, etc.?
 - ix. FOHVOS has a bag ban webpage
 - x. Electric Vehicles, Plastics, Heat Pumps, Solar, Water Resources/Flooding, Pesticides, Invasive Species

- b) No update of Board of Health – next meeting is next week.
Talking about Pennington Day.

Adjourn at 8:58 pm

12.Next Meeting – May 16th, 7:30pm