

Pennington Borough Environmental Commission
Minutes for May 17th, 2021 7:30 pm
Zoom Virtual

Brian, Nick, Kit, Bill, Joann, Nadine, Greg (7:55)

1. Public comment

None

2. Review of past minutes- April 2021

Joann had minor comment. Joann moved, Nadine second.

Brian summarized the Earth Day tree planting event.

3. Administrative Issues (Friedlich-Chandler)-

a) ERI Update / Mapping

ERI draft is close to being completed. Kit Chandler recommending having a sit-down meeting to help get the ERI over the finish line. Once the draft is completed, we should insert the maps in and send it to the Watershed for input. Kit Chandler will schedule a sit-down meeting.

b) Plastic Ban Education/Outreach

Kit to send the list of businesses to contact for outreach (37 total) developed by Econ Dev Comm. Single use plastic and paper bags, polystyrene food containers.

4. Borough Council Report (Chandler)-

a) Updates on Landfill Property and Arboretum

Supplemental funding came through. However, it does not look like the consultant will make the September goal. Currently do not know the extent of wells that will be needed for additional work. Timetable TBD.

b) Other issues

Borough is moving to 1x week, large can, trash pickup. There was a complaint to Council that larger households would like the option for multiple pickups per week. Council is evaluating

options. Good opportunity for education on waste management. Partner with library? Post on website? Green Team recorded Journey to Zero Waste. Link on website? Are there opportunities to collect/store recyclables for periods of time? Green Team has discussed idea of a “recycling depot.” How does the Borough spend the \$\$ it gets from the state for recycling? Can we have a broader discussion about the Borough’s efforts? Can we focus on waste reduction and composting?

Question from Nell Haughton (public): How do you get on the Green Team? Is there any way to find out if companies can use the plastic refuge to create products? Does Terracycle reuse plastic?

5. Planning/Zoning Board Report (Angarone)
 - a) Planning/Zoning Board Report
Discussion of how to better able review development applications and make green infrastructure recommendations.
Nick provided description of applications for 205 S. Main Street and E. Franklin/Lewis Brook Rd.
6. Open Space Committee Report (Alexander)
 - a) Open Space Committee Report
Monthly meeting later in week.
7. Green Team and Sustainable Jersey Update (Held)
 - a) Green Team Report
No meeting in May. Farmer’s Market recycling event June 26th.
Farmer’s Market opens on May 29th. Joann summarized the Earth Day events and leftover kits.
8. On-going Mission Topics (Friedlich)
 - a) Carbon Neutral Working Group
Brian shared a mission statement document based on Council resolution.
 - b) Heritage at Pennington Pollinator Garden

No update

9. New Business

None.

10. Next Meeting June 21, 2021

Adjourned at 8:43 pm

Bill moved, Joann second.