

Flemington Environmental Commission Meeting
7/17/23

In attendance: Melissa Swingle, Trent Levitt, Chris Runion, Marcia Karrow, Jae Hoff

Meeting start 7:06PM

Public Comment

Councilmember Tony Parker gave a brief presentation on the upcoming Flemington Borough newsletter. Parker explained that the goal of the quarterly newsletter is to improve communication in the community and provide updates on the work that the local government and each committee is doing. The Environmental Commission has been tasked with providing an update on its members, mission/purpose, and any relevant updates on projects. The due date for the EC's portion of the newsletter is 8/28. The first newsletter is planned to be released in November.

Review of Special Meeting

Trent Levitt reviewed the special meeting held on 6/28 and the letter of recommendations for the proposed projects at 53 Main Street and 13 Brown Street. The main purpose of the letter was to encourage the Planning Board to require the submission of all stormwater requirement documentation before approval of the project.

Levitt also noted that 53 Main had been approved at the most recent Planning Board meeting.

Planning Board Applications in Progress

The Commission reviewed all projects currently up for review at the Planning Board.

Levitt and Karrow provided an update about a new housing project by Wertzville Road Properties off of Rt 12. The proposed project plan will be reviewed at the next environmental commission meeting. Levitt will send all documents to the members of the commission before the next meeting.

Approval of minutes

June and April minutes were approved unanimously.

May minutes were approved in June.

The Commission will approve meetings for the June Special Meeting in August.

ANJEC Grant and Flemington Borough Community Garden

Trent Levitt informed the Commission that ANJEC had approved the use of the grant for a prefabricated shed instead of materials to build one. Borough Council approved the placement of a shed in the confines of the Flemington Borough Community Garden with a gravel pad at the most recent meeting.

New Business

The Commission discussed the need for a strengthened Shade Tree Ordinance to help combat the Flemington heat island effect and require businesses and developers to plant and maintain landscaping and trees. The Commission discussed several business properties where landscaping put in during development projects had been allowed to die off and has not been replaced. The Commission noted a need to determine who should be contacted about the need to replace dead shrubbery and trees around businesses in the borough.

It was also discussed if there should be a requirement for recipients of free trees through the Shade Tree Commission to maintain their trees for a set period to prevent die-off.

End of meeting: 8:05