

West Cape May Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes September 6, 2017

Call to Order: 6:40 PM

Roll Call: Tom Bocket, Susan Crossan, Joe Grottola, Chris Isenhardt, Barbara Lamb, Trish Miller, Hilary Pritchard (chair), Louise Zemaitis, Pam Kaithern (mayor), Carol Sabo (commissioner)

Absent: Barbara Lamb, Harriet Wilson

Visitors: Ed Creenan

Minutes: A motion was made by Chris to accept July's minutes and seconded by Tom.

Treasurer's Report:

As of June, there is a balance of \$15,860.41.

Approval of the Treasurer's report was tabled. Tom needs to check with the WCM Finance Department about expenditures.

Planning Board:

Bayshore Road/5th Street/State Street (six houses) - Plan was approved by the state for water distribution. Water management will be better when the project is complete.

404 First Avenue (1722 Star Avenue, LLC) submitted an application for an LOI. Existing home in a developed lot.

119 Myrtle Avenue (commercial district) submitted an application for development: addition with multiple units and parking. This proposal will be submitted to the planning board next week.

Open Space Lots:

The Borough is moving forward on town property purchases: one on Park Blvd (Block 2, Lot 5) for \$2500. The estate is requesting deed restrictions. A second lot on 3rd Avenue is available for the price of the lean on property. About \$2500.

Chris made a motion to approve funds from the WCM EC, not to exceed \$3000, to obtain one of these properties. Seconded by Susan. All members agreed that it was a good idea.

Old Business

Farmers Market 2017 - Chris spoke about the different organizations who came to the Farmer's Market and manned the booth. Hilary congratulated Chris on doing a good job organizing the Farmer's Market.

Open Space lot on 3rd Ave. - Brittany Dobrzynski sent an email updating the progress.

Coordinated Bicycle Path Initiative/bicycle safety initiative - Pam suggested positive and clever signage to promote car/bike safety.

Ed said that he will contact the county to ask that the bike lanes be cleared of invasive plants along Sunset Blvd.

Hilary is member of the Cape May Bicycle Path Committee. She spoke about her goal of bringing more members of the community together to work towards a unified goal of better bike paths on Cape Island.

Green Team - Hilary suggested that WCM have a bike rally. It would be an educational/safety event in conjunctional with the WCM Elementary School's spring Bike-a-thon.

Recycling - The issue of Beach Plum Farm not recycling came up. Hilary said that she would speak with the farm's manager.

ERI - Chris sent EC members the link to the ERI draft.

Hilary suggested that each member choose a section and provide feedback for the next meeting.

New Business

Chris went to a Cape May Point EC presentation by master gardener Linda Conover about backyard composting. She brought information about Geobins, which were given out to local residents at the meeting. Municipalities can purchase the bins in bulk. She suggested the WCM EC sell them at the Farmer's Market, at a discounted price.

Chris suggested that we do more evening programs. She would like Linda to do a presentation about composting for one of the WCM EC Friday night programs. She is available in October 20th, 7:00 PM.

Hilary made a motion to purchase 80 Geobins, not to exceed \$2000. Seconded by Chris.

Chris made a motion to adjourn, Trish seconded. Adjournment: 8:50 pm

Minutes prepared by Louise Zemaitis

Next meeting will be October 4th, 6:30 pm