

West Cape May Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes
February 3, 2021

Call to Order: 6:33 PM

Roll Call: Hilary Pritchard (chair), Alan Crawford, Joe Grottola, Chris Isenhardt, Trish Miller, Allison Morgan, Janet Payne, Louise Zemaitis, Commissioner John Francis

Absent: Tom Bocket

Minutes: Chris made a motion to accept January's Minutes and Trish seconded.

Treasurer's Report:

The current balance is \$21,728.96. There was a \$132 cash deposit from sales at the 2020 Farmer's Market. Chris made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and Trish seconded.

Planning Board:

February's Planning Board meeting was cancelled.

Old Business:

Pollinator Park – Joe reported that the four planters have been assembled and are ready for spring planting. He has been researching benches and will forward ideas to Hilary.

Hilary mentioned that there are grants available from the Coca Cola Company for recycling bins, due March 19th. It had been previously decided that Pollinator Park would be carry in carry out. There was a discussion about the need for better recycling practices at Backyard Park during the WCM Farmers Market.

Green Team – Tom created the "Borough of West Cape May 2020 Environmental Commission Annual Report of Activities" and emailed it to all WCM EC members. Louise made a motion to accept the report and Chris seconded.

Cape May Connections – Hilary asked Mayor Sabo about the new pavers on Goldbeaten Alley between 2nd and Atlantic. She explained that it is a permeable surface, but not necessarily intended to be part of a bike path.

Invasive Plant Brochure – Louise will deliver brochures to Cape May Point Environmental Commission and Cape May Bird Observatory.

Bamboo – Hilary will ask the Cape May Point EC if they have a Bamboo Ordinance.

Spotted Lanternfly – Hilary shared emails about the Spotted Lanternfly. Alan will contact the state of NJ about Spotted Lanternfly getting hand outs for the Farmer's Market. Janet will do a Press Release.

Farmer's Market – Chris will coordinate the EC booth again in 2021.

Ideas about new educational materials were discussed. Louise talked to Julie Hickman, Mad Potters Studio, about ideas for selling countertop compost containers and other environmental friendly related items.

Battery Recycling – Alan contacted Lauren Vitelli about purchasing the EasyPak Battery Recycling container. She responded with concerns from the Fire Company about combustible risks. The box will need to be monitored by EC members. Members agreed that they would create a battery fact sheet and share monitoring responsibilities. Alan will head up the effort.

Hilary made a motion to reactivate EC's battery recycling efforts and Chris seconded. Alan will contact the fire department and work with Lauren to set up an account with the battery recycling company.

Flooding – Commissioner Francis spoke about the need for a watershed study of the entirety of Cape Island.

Plastic Bag Ordinance – Hilary will forward a copy of the WCM Plastic Bag Ordinance to members.

Facebook and Instagram – Allison reached out to Mayor Sabo about Facebook. Mayor Sabo suggested that the WCM EC send posts to Suzanne Schumann to manage. They will be linked to the borough's website and Facebook page.

New Business:

Earth Day – Janet will do a Press Release.

West Cape May Gardens – Louise suggested that WCM EC sponsor garden tours of West Cape May wildlife gardens, conducted by Pat Sutton. She will contact Pat Sutton. She also suggested that there be awards to

local gardeners, similar to Cape May Point. Janet made a motion that a garden competition should be created and Louise seconded.

Adjournment – 7:35 PM. Janet made a motion to adjourn and Alan seconded.

Minutes prepared by Louise Zemaitis

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 3^d at 6:30 PM