

West Cape May Environmental Commission

**Meeting Minutes**

**April 6, 2022**

**The meeting of the West Cape May Environmental Commission was call to order at 6:37 after which Hilary Pritchard read the Open Public Meetings Statement.**

**Roll Call:** Hilary Pritchard (chair), Allison Morgan, Chris Isenhardt, Joe Grottola, Janet Payne and Commissioner Dan Kurkowski. Absent: Trish Miller, Tom Bocket, Louise Zemaitis, Alan Crawford.

**Minutes:** Allison made a motion to accept March's minutes and Chris seconded. All were in favor of the motion.

**Treasurer's Report:** Current balance &16,972.49, no change from last months balance. Chris made a motion to approved the treasurer's report, seconded by Janet. All were in favor of the motion.

**Planning Board:** Allison reported that 2 applications were approved, neither had environmental concerns. She also said there is discussion about a possible dark sky lighting ordinance.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Pollinator Park:** Chris noted that should we decide to remove the existing shed, it would need to be cleared with the county first. Discussions continued about additional benches. Joe reports that Matt Notch did an assessment of the space. He said he could do all of the tree work for \$2400/day and it would take them 2 days. We discussed asking Shade Tree Commission to split the cost. Dan said he would talk to Peter about that. Joe got 10 more coral honeysuckle from Karen Williams to plant along the back chain link fence. It was discussed to mark off the milkweed and make an area that won't be mowed. Hilary has continued talk with Pat and Clay Sutton. They are will to help with design and plant selection. They have invited Hilary and EC member to come tour their property.

**Green Team:** The Land Use Pledge will be added to the BOC agenda for April 13, 2022. April and May will include gathering more documents and submitting completed actions for a late May deadline. This will be the first of three submission opportunities. Late August and November are the other times. Tom continues to gather points towards our recertification. All are strongly encouraged to assist.

**Cape May Connections:** New maps are available. No other updates at this time.

**Farmer's Market:** Hilary showed a prototype of the chico bag featuring a blend of Janet and Louise's artwork. Chris was looking into getting wholesale countertop compost bins, but no success as yet.

**Programs:** None scheduled at this time.

**ECO-Award:** Last month it was discussed to name the DEVINERS the first Eco Award recipients. After talking with Dan, Chris suggested we have Wayne Hoffman as our Eco Award recipient. Chris will write something up.

**Ocean Arts Festival:** Janet reports that plans are moving along and a full day is scheduled. The date is Saturday June 11, 2022. As a financial sponsor, we are invited to host a table at the event. Many volunteers will be need. Contact Janet or Alicia Caulkins is able to help out.

**Battery Recycling:** Alan emailed EC members that there are concerns about fire risks with improper battery recycling. Discussion to follow when Alan is present.

**Ongoing Issues of Concern:**

Commissioner Kurkowski reported that Carol and Lauren have a meeting in two weeks regarding new solar panels for borough hall roof. He also said that Wilbruham Park is having drip irrigation installed for the new plantings and that will drastically reduce the water usage for that area. In regards to a pre-demolition inspection to ensure appliances and other hazardous materials do not go into dumpsters and end up in the landfill, he said since it has to go through zoning and possibly HPC and it is already stated in the Universal Construction Code, they feel it is redundant and cumbersome to add an additional inspection. Violations can and should be reported to Norm in Code Enforcement.

**New Business:** None

**Public Comments:** None

**Adjournment:** Joe made a motion to adjourn at 8:35 that was seconded by Allison. All were in favor of the motion.

**Next meeting May 4, 2022 6:30 pm**

**Minutes were prepared by Chris Isenhardt**