

## ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

March 19, 2025  
Meeting Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission of the Borough of Roosevelt was called to order by Chairman Michael Ticktin on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 7:03p.m.

The Roll was called by Secretary, Maria Dellasala

### ROLL CALL:

Present: Sam Ashburner, Ben Johnson, Lawrence Mendies, Maureen Parrott, Dave Teich, Michael Ticktin, Kathleen Murphy, Arielle Debira (arrives at 7:07p.m).

**ADEQUATE PUBLIC NOTICE OF MEETING STATEMENT:** Adequate notice of this meeting has been given, in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, by notices published in the Asbury Park Press and the Times of Trenton on January 30, 2025 and posted on the bulletin boards in the Borough Hall and at the Roosevelt Post Office.

### Environmental Commission Mission Statement

1. To protect, preserve, and enhance the natural environment within our jurisdiction.
2. To promote sustainable practices and responsible resource management for the benefit of present and future generations.
3. To Advocate for environmental justice, ensuring equitable access to clean air, water, and a healthy environment for all communities.

Goals: Short term goals for the next 18 months approved (approved by EC on 11/15/23)

Environmental Education and Outreach of these subjects:

1. Forever Chemicals are PFAS chemicals that disrupt the immune system and are carcinogenic.
2. Investigate Community Solar or other programs that allow households to use renewable energy without installing solar panels on their homes. Learn more about Clean Choice energy which allows a resident to select renewable energy as the source of energy for their home. Present results at a community meeting.
3. Advocate for safe and responsible waste management practices. Partnering with the Recycle Coordinator to get more information out on what is recyclable. Also encourage use of eco-friendly products

The Commission has a discussion on the Land and People Acknowledgement statement and it is a reminder of the people who were here before us and it should stay.

### Land and People Acknowledgement

Michael Ticktin reads: The land and waterways upon which the residents of the Borough of Roosevelt gather and live are the ancestral and unceded Lenapehoking territory of the Lenni-Lenape nation. We honor the contributions of their ancestors, those now in the diaspora, and the Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape, Ramapough Lenape and Powhatan Renape who continue to live in the

areas we call New Jersey. We honor this ancestral land of the Lenni-Lenape Nation. May we live in harmony, caring for this sacred land.

#### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Motion was made by Kathleen Murphy to approve the agenda and second was made by Dave Teich. Agenda was unanimously passed.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE AGENDA:

Chairman Ticktin opens the meeting to the public for comments on the agenda at: 7:05p.m.

No Public Comment

Chairman Ticktin closes the meeting to the public for comments on the agenda at: 7:05p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: December 18, 2024 – Sam Ashburner made a motion to approve the December 18, 2024, minutes with a second from Michael Ticktin. Minutes were unanimously passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 19, 2025 – Dave Teich made a motion to approve the February 19, 2025, minutes with a second from Sam Ashburner. Minutes were unanimously passed.

#### CORRESPONDENCE:

1. ANJEC – 2025 Fundamentals for Effective Environmental Commission, March 18-20, 2025, Via Zoom
2. The Land Conservancy of New Jersey – State Funds Available to Update Farmland & Open Space Plans
3. State of New Jersey – NJ Updates, Events, Deadlines, Programs, Guidance and More
4. Sustainable New Jersey – Submitted applications for Sustainable Jersey certification for the first 2025 application deadline on February 23, 2025
5. Sustainable Jersey – The Gold Star in Climate Readiness
6. ANJEC – Toxic Plastic Action Session Thursday, February 27, 2025 at noon via zoom
7. NJDEP – NJUCF News & Updates – 3/1/25
8. ANJEC – March Monthly Digest
9. NJDEP – Funding Opportunity
10. ANJEC – Fundamentals for Effective Environmental Commissions
11. State of New Jersey – NJ Updates, Events, Deadlines, Programs, Guidance and more
12. Sustainable Jersey – 2025 New Jersey Sustainability Summit Friday, May 9, 2025

#### PRESENTATION

Chairman Michael Ticktin introduces Susan Bristol of the Watershed Institute. Susan is here to give a presentation on MS4 and Regional Approaches. Susan asks everyone to introduce themselves. In attendance are; Environmental Commission members: Arielle Debira, Ben Johnson, Sam Ashburner, Secretary Maria Dellasala, Michael Ticktin, Dave Teich, Lawrence Mendies, Kathleen Murphy, Maureen Parrott. Ellen Silverman, Steve Taylor, Hilary Wilder, C/Ralph Warnick, Mayor Malkin, C/Tina Kaufman-Marut.

Susan Bristol is a policy specialist for the Watershed Institute and gives a brief background.

- See attachment at the end of the minutes.  
Hilary Wilder asks; Roosevelt is in 2 watershed areas, so are responsible for 2 watershed plans? Susan Bristol states no, you are responsible for 1 watershed improvement plan. Questions that Susan Will get back to us with answers are:
  1. How does residential or commercial mosquito spray treatment affect the water/waterways?
  2. How are wood chips on trails considered regarding perviousness? Are those paths impervious?
  3. The other question asked is one that many towns are discussing: How were the affordable housing numbers derived and were environmentally sensitive & protected lands considered (removed) from the buildable land data? Since this is a topic that intersects with the State Plan draft (and both of the new goals in this update: Equity and Environment/Climate), I mentioned you consider attending the Monmouth County State Plan meeting/ Cross Acceptance meeting coming up (as per webpage: <https://www.nj.gov/state/bac/planning/documents/update-to-state-plan/SPC-LEGAL-AD-PUBLIC-NOTICE-FEB-APR-2025.pdf>)
  4. World Water Day is March, 22, 2025.
  5. Next Assunpink Meeting; regarding The Lower Millstone is April 9 and April 16; Susan will forward additional information.

REPORT OF PLANNING BOARD LIAISON – None at this time.

REPORT OF COUNCIL LIAISON – Mayor Malkin reports that the Planning Board approved the Ordinance introduced by the Borough Council for Stricter Stormwater Regulations, they also approved cannabis cultivation.

C/Warnick reports that Mayor Malkin has signed a letter supporting the Green Team initiatives and expresses the Borough Councils gratitude to the Green Team for re-attaining Sustainable Jersey Bronze Certification. C/Warnick explains to the council of the desire for a path between the triangle and the school. At this time budgets are in the works and will ask to approve the increase of the Environmental Commission budget from \$4,000 to \$5,000. Council has put out a bid for the construction for N. Valley Road and redirect the water.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

- Administrative – No report.
- Forest Management – Sam Ashburner reports Michael Merritt ordered \$1400 supplies for the trail puncheons. They will be delivered to the Home Depot in East Windsor and cut down to size. Delivery date to be determined. School path is primary focus and then the trail between Tamara and Rochdale.
- Invasive Plant Species – Steve Taylor reports he planned on marking the invasive species at the Amphitheater along the trail, especially the barberry, unfortunately couldn't find any, we may have gotten rid of it in the last clean up. We will mark others in April.
- Stream Monitoring – No Report.
- Sustainable Jersey – Hilary Wilder Thanks Mayor Malkin for the letter, we will start on our efforts for getting our points for our 2026 certification.

- Goals Committee – No report.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 5<sup>th</sup>. Grade Graduation award - Sam Ashburner made a motion to approve \$50 appropriation for graduation award, with a second from Dave Teich. Motion was unanimously approved.
- Maureen Parrott requests to attend the Sustainability Jersey Summit on May 9, 2025 at a cost of \$45 - Sam Ashburner made a motion to approve \$50 appropriation Maureen Parrott to attend the Sustainability Jersey Summit, with a second from Dave Teich. Motion was unanimously approved.
- Up to \$50 stipend for artists in town to paint our 2 little libraries, this would be for supplies to complete the projects - Sam Ashburner made a motion to approve up to \$50 appropriation for each artist (2), with a second from Maureen Parrott. Motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chairman Ticktin opens the public comment at: 8:34p.m.

No Public Comment

Chairman Ticktin closes the public comment at: 8:34p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Kathleen Murphy motioned to adjourn, Maureen Parrott offered a second. It was unanimously passed to adjourn at 8:34p.m.

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Maria Dellasala, Secretary