

## ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Corrected

July 15, 2020

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission of the Borough of Roosevelt was called to order by Chairperson Michael Ticktin on Wednesday, July 15, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. We are not at the Borough Hall; **this is a “Zoom” meeting.** Members adjusted their recording equipment. Ms. Mary Tulloss reminded the Members that they should state their first and last names slowly each time before they speak, so members will know who is speaking. The Roll was called by Chairperson Michael Ticktin.

### **ROLL CALL:**

Present; Felong, Hartley, Murray, Ticktin, Tulloss, Silverman - Alt 1

Absent: Ashburner, Dermody, Vacant - Alt 2

### **ADEQUATE PUBLIC NOTICE OF MEETING STATEMENT:**

To show that proper notice of this meeting has been given, **Chairperson Michael Ticktin** stated that the minutes indicate: “Adequate notice of this meeting has been given, in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, by notices published in the Times of Trenton and in the Asbury Park Press on January 24, 2020 and posted on the bulletin boards in the Borough Hall and at the Roosevelt Post Office. This meeting is being conducted by **“Zoom”**. Notice of this meeting was given on the Roosevelt Borough Website.”

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE AGENDA:** None

### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

Motion to approve this Agenda was made by Ms. Kim Felong and Second was made by Ms. Mary Tulloss. This passed by unanimous vote.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion was made by Ms. Mary Tulloss and Second by Ms. Kim Felong that the **June 17<sup>th</sup>** minutes be approved with the following correction: page 2, under Administrative section 2, change “large tees” to read ”large **trees**”. These minutes were unanimously accepted with the correction.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

### **REPORT OF PLANNING BOARD LIAISON**

Mr. Tim Hartley reported the Planning Board had no meeting., so no report.

### **REPORT OF COUNCIL LIAISON:**

The Council Liaison was not present, so our Chair Ticktin reported that the Tree Ordinance passed without the changes we recommended. The Council said that they would revisit it to see what changes can be made, but wanted to get something through quickly to avoid destruction of more trees. At their last Council meeting this past Monday, there was no more mention of this subject. Interested citizens need to show up and mention their concerns. Mr. Tim Hartley stated that he knows that the Mayor is working on this. Chair Ticktin asked about the Bamboo Ordinance and it was said that people are on vacation now. Hopefully action will be taken in September. Those interested can check the factory area between 39 and 41 N. Valley Road where Bamboo was cut back from the roadway about two months ago. It is totally re-grown already!

### **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:**

**Administrative** - Nick Murray reported that he was in touch with Diane Lowrie regarding getting new maps printed for the Trail boxes. We have new maps for the area by the Water Treatment Plant and up by the Cemetery. **They don't know the cost yet.** Ellen Silverman had a question for Nick: "The map that is now at the Waste Treatment Center, is it incorrect?" Nick said that there are a couple of things to change: the orientation of the map so that it more accurately shows where you are in relation to where the Trail goes; also a few minor things he will check the actual name of the Trail with Diane Lowrie. Also there are wasps at the map site at this time. Chair Ticktin asked if there was a small map (8 ½ x 11) that would be more suitable and could be left at the Borough Hall? These are big maps, so Nick said he would look into **smaller maps**. He will need two print-outs. Nick said some felt we could ask other interested town folks for input.

**Forest Management** - Ellen Silverman mentioned the two trees that are down between Empty Box Brook and Route 571, past where the two big Oaks are. Have they been taken care of? Nick said he was not familiar with that area. Ellen said she will check tomorrow and e-mail him. Nick said some pictures would be helpful, if possible.

**Invasive Plant Species** - Mr. Steve Taylor reported that at the July 11<sup>th</sup> Plant Give Away, 48 plants were given to local folks. They were Common, Swamp, and Butterfly Milkweed, White Turtle-Head, and Cardinal Flower plants. Also 39 Cardinal Flower seed packets were distributed. Ms. Mary Tulloss thanked Mr. Steve for all his help to keep Roosevelt beautiful.

**Stream Monitoring** - Ms. Mary Tulloss submitted a small article to the Borough Bulletin to describe the monitoring we will be doing and asking for volunteers. It should appear in the next issue. She also included participation for middle school and high school students. As far as the Beaver Dam goes, she invited Ellen Silverman to explain this to our group. Ms. Silverman said that she has been monitoring it, but has not seen the beaver for at least seven days. After the rain, the dam was not repaired, so there is a possibility that the beaver has moved on. Ms. Tulloss said that when she looked at it today, there was a little bit of mud or something starting to repair it. It is not rebuilt and water is still flowing through there. Tim Hartley added that he and Sam Ashburner were at the dam this past Sunday and there was not much change to the dam. It is much like it was. This looks like the beaver has moved on! Mary said that “when she looked at it today, it looked like some mud was appearing on the top of where the log was, but the water is still flowing where the dam was.” Tim Hartley said “he and Sam Ashburner spent time there this past Sunday, and there is not much difference to how the water is piled up at the dam; it is intact.” Tim felt “there is not much change between his checking-out visits. The dam seems to be about where it was. So the beaver is probably there!” Mary mentioned “it looks like the water has receded. Since they are not sure about the beaver, they may keep monitoring for a while.” Ellen Silverman added that her concern is that the culvert under the path might be blocked and probably needs to be checked/maintained. Chair Tickin added that “the water seems to be the same on both sides of the culvert.” The blockage that is keeping the water high is further down stream where the dam is.” Tim mentioned a **webinar he had attended** that had a lot of beaver information; he will copy it to members. Depending on what is happening, Mary Tulloss said “**she has contacts to get us information and perhaps come here to see what is going on.** She has noticed on her home property that her sweet gum trees were dropping a lot of leaves that were yellowing and had brown spots and were dead. along Lake Drive; something has affected many trees. They expect that next year, if it is a more normal year, the trees will recover.”

### **Sustainable Jersey - No Report**

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

**COMMENTS:** None

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

No further business, on motion by Ms. Kim Felong and second by Ms. Ellen Silverman, this Meeting was adjourned at 7:36 P.M.