

Mountain Lakes Environmental Commission (“EC”)

September 15, 2015

Minutes

Commissioners present: Khizar Sheikh (Chair); Mimi Kaplan; Allison Rankin; John Horan, Marnie Vyff

Commissioners Absent: Gretchen Fry

Liaison: Bill Albergo.

Public Guests: None.

1. Call to Open: Chair Sheikh called the meeting open at 7:37 pm.
2. King of Kings. Discussion of Environmental Commission (EC)’s role in addressing KOK environmental concerns. Summary of recent Borough Council meeting: steep slope and water usage ordinances were relaxed, building envelope was reduced. Risk mitigation and builder’s remedy topics discussed. Commissioner Vyff explores more creative solutions to affordable housing issues. Calculations of the number of housing units required remains in question. Commissioner Sheikh to compose letter to Council regarding the EC’s concerns with steep slope and water usage issues introduced in Council’s new ordinance.
3. Water Conservation Plan/Program. Commissioner Sheikh discusses goals and action plans for the EC to be conducted over the next year. Firm capacity calculation is questioned. Purchasing potable water from neighboring towns is potentially an option.
4. Committee Reports.
 - a. Planning. Meeting scheduled for 9/24/15 at 7:30 pm in the High School Auditorium to discuss rezoning ordinance and the Master Plan.
 - b. Zoning. No new reports.
 - c. Shade Tree. No new reports.
 - d. Lakes Management. Beaver activity significantly increases. Low water levels may increase growth of algae. Dissolved oxygen levels in Birchwood Lake have improved.
 - e. Woodlands. No new reports.
 - f. Green Team. Fall CleanUp including pocket parks to be conducted 10/24/15. Team meeting to be scheduled soon.
5. Structures at Island Beach and Birchwood Lake: Commissioner Kaplan provides an update on renovation progress. Potential surface water runoff and impervious coverage issues in addition to tree removal concerns are discussed. EC to explore “green” improvements to plans: re-use grey water, water barrel installations, solar panels on structures.
6. Call to Adjourn: Chair Sheikh calls the meeting closed at 9:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Commissioner Allison Rankin.