

Mountain Lakes Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2020 7:30pm Zoom Video Meeting

Commission Members Present:

Mimi Kaplan	Chris Capodanno
Peter Smith	Kevin Driscoll
Jackie Bay	Marnie Vyff
Nicholas Coppola	Allison Rankin
Elizabeth Hirschfeld	Student Liaison
Audrey Lane	Borough Council Liaison

1. Administration

- June Meeting Minutes were reviewed and endorsed
- Student Applications - Applications for the 2020/2021 Student Liaison Member applications were reviewed and discussed by Members. Follow up with applicants will be made this week to meet 7/24 deadline.

2. Route 46 Development

- A discussion took place regarding the placement/planting of trees in the set-back along the side of Route 46E, specifically at western entrance to ML where current development is proposed, that are reflective of Mountain Lakes character and aesthetics.
- Jackie Bay had a call with NJDOT Morris County representative Marc Smolinski. He indicated that it can be done by permit application, which he provided.
- Jackie will propose to the ML Shade Tree Commission for further review.

3. Committee Liaison Updates:

Lakes Management

- Mountain Lake was recently treated for bass weed, and the date for the drawdown of lakes is under review

EDAC

- A review of permitted business on Rt 46 is underway

DPW

- A new DPW attendant has been hired to manage misuse by non-residents and residents.

Shade Tree

- The STC is working to plant 40-50 new Tree's as part of the replenishment of Tree Loss. Discussions are also taking place for funding for further tree planning, while August is the time the Commission focused on Prune & Remove for hazardous tree's

Student Liaison

- The ML Environmental Club assisted Brian Marshall in construction of Birchwood Rain Garden. Kevin and Elizabeth will discuss plans to establish a botanical garden, composting and rain barrels use and education with new principal/school administration. Information regarding Single-Use Plastic Bag Ban will also be provided to MLHSEC members to share with MLHS students.

Planning Board Update

Zeris Inn (Wawa, gas station & Home2Suites Hotel project) not on 7/23 agenda.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm, next meeting scheduled for September 15, 2020 7:30pm.