

Mountain Lakes Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2019 7:30pm Borough Hall

Commissioner Members Present:

Chris Capodanno
Peter Smith
Allison Rankin

Marnie Vyff
Nicholas Coppola

Megan Beik Student Representative
Audrey Lane Council Liaison

1. Administration

- June 2019 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved
- Membership of MLEC was updated and an Alternate Member position is open
- Membership and Chairmanship of the Green Team was reviewed and potential candidates to be reviewed again at the next meet

2. Island Beach Project Update

- The Commission recommended that line item budgeting be confirmed for Rain Garden, Storm-water Management and Trees be considered through the Borough Liaison

3. Sunset Development

- The Commission recommended that the Council consider the construction to include cistern or other rain collection systems
- NJ DEP rules on wells should be checked as related to wells
- Further review of clarity is recommended for ML Ordinances as related to wells

4. Harmful Algal Blooms (HAB)

- A Forum is scheduled on this topic on October 8th at the MLHS, and various organizations are reaching out to neighboring municipalities to attend
- Mimi will be posting to the ML website, virtual backpack and other communication channels

5. Plastic Bag & Plastic Usage Ordinance Discussion

- The MLEC supports establishing Ordinances on these topics
- Recently passed resolutions in Parsippany and other municipalities, along with ANJEC models are being collected to present to Council

6. Student Member Update

- Megan presented objectives for 2019/2020 including more regular meetings of the HS Environmental Club and Turf & Bleacher litter clean-up programs
- MLEC members asked the Megan work to arrange a meeting with the Athletic Director and other parties as appropriate to review Plastic Bottle usage and Sports events
- Benchmarking on other community initiatives (including Madison, NJ) to be shared for discussion

7. Committee Liaison Updates

- Green Team Membership and Meeting Structure was discussed for future planning
- Lakes Commission provided an update on Sunset Dam and other related activities
- Shade Tree updated the lost off Tree's at the Mountain Lakes High School on Powerville Road due to construction
- DPW has successfully posted new posters at the Recycling Center to improve proper usage. A Recycling Video has been created and is to be posted to the website by the Borough Manager, and MLEC will further review how to share the information further

9. Whippany River Watershed Action Committee

This committee will be hosting their 20th Anniversary celebration on October 2nd from 6:00pm to 8:30pm at the the Frelinghysen Arboretum

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm

Next Meeting scheduled for October 15, 2019 7:30pm Borough Hall