

# Mountain Lakes Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes

September 22, 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**

- July Meeting Minutes were reviewed and endorsed
- Welcome new Student Liaison Member Eric Lee

### **2. Route 46 Development**

- Focus is to be Tree Planting with the Shade Tree Commission
- The DOT remains agreeable and open to receiving our permit for planting and verbally agreed to continue mowing maintenance
- Review need to be made on the locations, species, and draft concept to be presented to the Borough who would then need to review their ability to maintain
- Further development of landscaping beyond Tree's will be added
- A target would be planting in Fall 2021

### **3. Development Projects**

- Speedway Gas Station Route 46, tanks have been removed and project is progressing
- Sunrise Development, review on Plans and status related to the Environmental Status and possible meeting for a site visit if needed
- WaWa Highview Development meeting was cancelled

### **4. Single Use Plastic Bag Plan Proposal**

- NJ State will vote this week, and this topic is on this month's ML Borough Council meeting

### **5. Committee Liaison Updates:**

#### EDAC

- A meeting was held with the Historic Preservation Committee members on developing area's around Hapgoods/Market for possible commercial development. Morristown, Morris Street Redevelopment Plan is a model and preliminary review.

#### DPW

- In the next few weeks there will be new Recycling Center Signs and Hours
- A solid waste committee will review the recycling/disposal program and contract

#### Shade Tree

- Sept/Oct focus is the Prune & Removes in Town, Tree Walks on Right of Way
- Continued focus on Residential ROW Planting will be supported by the MLEC
- A new Tree Inventory Management is being kicked-off to provide more data and trends for Canopy Management. Latest count is we are losing about 291 Trees/year and the Boro is replacing about 30/year.
- BoE has supported new Tree Plantings in Briarcliff (replacing a memorial tree for former principle Cera), and some new plantings at Wildwood school

#### Student Liaison

- Reactivating plan for a Botanical Garden at the ML High School and proposed to Principle
- The topic of rejuvenating the project to put up more Bat Houses was discussed

Meeting was adjourned at 9pm, next meeting scheduled for October 20, 2020 7:30pm