

SLH ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
April 8, 2019  
7:00 P.M.

**1.) Call to Order, Flag Salute, and Open Public Meetings Notification**

a.) Attendance: Sandy Denison, Nancy Maclearie Hayduk, Gaylen Nolan, Lisa Ball-O'Brien

**2.) Vote to elect Co-Chairs.**

Lisa Ball-O'Brien motioned to elect both a chair and vice-chair, Gaylen Nolan seconds the motion. Motion amended to have 2 Co-Chairs, all voting aye.

Gaylen Nolan motioned to nominate Nancy Maclearie Hayduk and Lisa Ball-O'Brien as co-chairs, second by Sandy Denison, all voting aye

**3.) Earth Day and Other Events**

Earth Day Event was discussed briefly. It was determined by the group as a whole that the timing did not allow for the organization of an event this month.

Discussed doing events throughout the year.

A joint event with Allaire Community Farm, aiming for a June 29<sup>th</sup> date. Example events: Salad in a Jar, Vegetable tasting. Sandy Denison volunteered to discuss this with the Farm.

The Commission discussed participating in the events with the Woman's Club, Scouts, Kids Organizations, Conserve wildlife. Nancy suggested a Macro Invertebrate Event outside. With the goal of multiple events throughout the year.

**4.) Review of Silt Fence Ordinance Enforcement**

Nancy expressed her on-going concern regarding the enforcement issue of the silt fences at construction sites. Nancy sent a letter to Mr. Barrett from the Environmental Commission regarding the lack of enforcement of the silt fences. Mr. Barrett suggested bringing the issue in front of the Council. Nancy stated she would rather bring it to the attention of Council members individually via a letter. The group decided individual letters was appropriate. The question was posed who is responsible -- the local Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer Dearl Nelson or the Construction Office located in Spring Lake. Nancy Maclearie Hayduk informed the group historically it was the local Code Enforcement Officer. She stated she would regularly report construction areas in violation of the silt fence ordinance to the Code Enforcement Officer; however, since the recent change in the Code Enforcement Officer she reports the violations are not adequately getting addressed. Examples discussed were the on-going construction at the Spring Lake Heights School and a construction project on Old Mill Road that is now nearing completion.

The discussion of the silt fence ordinance led into a discussion about the garbage enforcement and managing the number of days with garbage curbside.

**5.) Improved Communication between the borough and the public**

Nancy suggested the Environmental Commission sponsor a newsletter to discuss on-going environmental issues but also highlight events and other issues pertinent to the public at large.

**6.) Proposed Ordinances**

Plastic Bag Ban – Nancy to send out to the Environmental Commission a copy of a plastic bag ban ordinance. Businesses in town that may be affected are the 7-11 stores and restaurants. A discussion ensued about how Belmar is initiating their ban in an incremental fashion. Sandy indicated she would be willing to speak to Atit at the 7-11 to assess their thoughts on such a ban.

Balloon Release Ban – The purpose of the ordinance is to prohibit the intentional release of balloons for ceremonial purposes. A sample ordinance was reviewed.

Nancy Maclearie Hayduk motioned and Lisa Ball-O'Brien seconds a plan to present a balloon release ban ordinance to council.

**7.) Tree Inventory**

Discussed the mutual concern about the tree inventory in town. Discuss possible solutions to addressing the removal of non-diseased trees. Suggested options include: applying for a permit to take down trees, confirming if it is necessary to take down a tree, creating a fund to plant new trees.

**8.) Voice of the Public**

Lucie Dickenson from 2201 Old Mill Road attended the meeting to express her interest in joining the Commission. Her contact information was obtained and it was planned to forward to Borough Clerk Janine Gillis and Mayor Thomas O'Brien.

**9.) Adjournment:** Motion/second: On a motion by Sandy Denison seconded by Gaylen Nolan, all voting aye, meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.