

SLH ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
June 10, 2019
7:00 P.M.

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

- a.) Meeting Started at 7:03 PM
- b.) In Attendance: Nancy Maclearie Hayduk, Lisa Ball-O'Brien, Gaylen Nolan, Derek Noah

2.) Swearing-In and Introduction of New Member

Mayor O'Brien completed the swearing in of Danielle Hughes – new Alternate Position and Lisa Ball-O'Brien – a new 3 year term

3.) Approval of the Agenda

Motion/second: Gaylen Nolan, Motion, Derek Noah Second – All voting Aye

4.) Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting: May 13, 2019

Motion/second: Derek Noah Motion, Lisa Ball-O'Brien Second – Only Derek and Lisa could vote as they were the on 2 members in attendance at previous meeting.

5.) Communications (Lisa) - None

6.) Site Plan Review - None

7.) Old Business

- a.) **Parks Update** – This was discussed first as Mayor O'Brien was available to speak to directly. There was a lengthy discussion about the current state of the trees in Joseph Robertson Park (A.K.A. Allaire Road Park). Because Mayor O'Brien was in attendance the status of the tree removal was discussed. Mayor O'Brien stated that trees were seen as a liability and needed to be removed. Because of the liability threat a plan for replacement could not be established prior to removal. Upon request of the Commission, Mr. Mayor confirmed the Tree Removal and Replanting Plan would be added to the June 15, 2019 Council Meeting. Nancy Maclearie Hayduk and Gaylen Nolan made impassioned pleas to Mayor O'Brien to prioritize the replanting of the trees as the trees have an environmental impact in the area. Ms. Maclearie Hayduk further reported there is a neighbor of the park Margaret "Peggy" Melchione who has created a petition to address the issues related to the tree removal at the park.

- b.) **Sustainable Jersey** – Lisa discussed briefly the timeline for submitting to Sustainable Jersey which is June of each year.

c.) Upcoming Events

- 1.) Allaire Community Farm
- 2.) Outdoor Event – Macro Invertebrate
- 3.) Community Projects (i.e. Woman's Club and Recreation)
- 4.) Indoor Event – February 2020

These events were spoken of in a general sense. Sandy Denison reported to Lisa Ball-O'Brien that the Allaire Community Farm date needs to be changed as it conflicted with Wall Fair. A list of possible organizations that may be able to help with the programs was created: AmeriCorps, Clean Ocean Action, American Littoral Society, Bay Keeper, SLH Recreation and Sea Grant

- d.) **Natural Resources Inventory** - Nancy Maclearie Hayduk reported that a tree, plants and wildlife inventory was recently completed.
- e.) **ROSI Update/Open Space Plan** – Nancy Maclearie Hayduk will work at completing the update.
- f.) **Proposed Ordinances**
 - 1.) Balloon – State is in the process of passing a statewide ban. Nancy Maclearie Hayduk is unclear whether it has been signed into law yet.
 - 2.) Plastic Bag Ban – Sandy Denison was not available to report on her contact directly with Atit Patel of 7-11 North. Lisa Ball-O'Brien reported her understanding was that Mr. Patel had agreed to assist as needed with this and is willing to advocate for this plan to other businesses.
- g.) **Green Team Subcommittee** – Lisa Ball-O'Brien discussed the Green Team's Facebook presence briefly.
- h.) **Code Enforcement** – this was added as a continued topic from previous meeting – Lisa Ball-O'Brien reported that Sandy Ratz at the Borough of Spring Lake Construction Office has recently and unexpectedly passed a way and that the Commission's concerns regarding zoning enforcement cannot be addressed fully until a replacement for him can be found. Further Lisa Ball-O'Brien indicated her understanding that the Borough Council and Administrator firmly believe the responsibility for and enforcement of the construction code should fall on whoever takes over this role in the Construction Office.

8.) New Business - None

- 9.) **Voice of the Public** – Carol Maccanico, 557 Ocean Road spoke. She expressed her concern about the growth of poison ivy in the park. She asked whether goats had been considered. Nancy Maclearie Hayduk and Gaylen Nolan added that the current conditions of the lack of trees and poor drainage at the park make the growth of poison ivy even more likely. Ms. Maccanico suggested the borough look into a Tick/Mosquito Plan with the support of Monmouth County or Rutgers University. The prevalence of ticks, especially the Lone Star Tick is of significant consequence. Lastly, Ms. Maccanico produced a list of native species of trees that she suggests would be good alternatives for the tree replanting in the park – see attachment

10.) Adjournment

Motion/second: Gaylen Nolan motioned, Nancy Maclearie Hayduk second. Meeting Adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Lisa Ball-O'Brien
7/8/19