

HOLMDEL ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
Minutes – Regular Meeting
Wednesday, **March 8, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.**

Karen Strickland, Chairperson opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m., and Loretta Coscia read the following **OPENING STATEMENT**: “*I hereby announce, pursuant to Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided on January 13, 2022, to the Asbury Park Press and the Two River Times. Notice has also been posted in the entrance of Town Hall, filed in the Clerk’s Office, and posted on the Township’s website, www.holmdeltownship.com, all pursuant to Section 13 of the Open Public Meetings Act.*”

Roll Call

Present: Karen Strickland, *Chairperson*
Chiung-Yin Cheng Liu (arrived at 7:43 p.m.)
Jill Perez
Tony Salerno
Gary Vanderham
Janet Jackel, Alternate 1
John Galasso, Alternate 2
Loretta Coscia, Secretary

Absent: Ralph Blumenthal
Randy Rauscher

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence to Honor Military, Police

Environmental Commission Business

- Draft Meeting Minutes – February 8, 2023, **motion** by Tony seconded by Gary to approve the minutes. Motion carried by voice vote of eligible members.
- New Jersey American Water Annual Environmental Grant Program – Karen asked for ideas from Commission members Janet stated that applying for this grant is a daunting task. Some funding for rain gardens was suggested.
- 2023 ANJEC Grants for Open Space Stewardship Projects – Karen stated we applied for an ANJEC grant last year and received it. An eagle scout built a boardwalk on the Ramanessin. The grant is for \$1500. We need to see what needs to be changed in our community. A girl scout is working on a silver award putting a kiosk in Allocco Park with information on a nature preserve. It was suggested applying for a grant for a platform or kiosk containing information on a preserve at the entrance to the Waackaack Preserve. Janet will put a grant proposal together and Karen will begin looking for a scout. Will apply for trail improvements, a sign, and bench.
- Trail Walks – Janet spoke about the FOHOS Daffodil Walk in April.

- Earth Day – FOHOS hike at Bayonet Farm at 11:00 a.m. There will be an HEC table, and a watershed model. Sign up sheet to be sent around. Please sign up for a time that works for you.
- Crawford Hill – There are three groups working on turning the Horn Antenna Property into a park; a petition is still circulating.

Planning Board Applications

None

Zoning Board Applications

16 Mount Drive, Shahar Spitzer – Block 50.25, Lot 24 in the R40-A Zone ZB Variance #469 Applicant seeks to construct a 2-story single-family residential dwelling on the subject property which is permitted use in the zone. The applicant requires bulk variance relief for the following: deficient lot area; deficient lot depth; deficient lot frontage; deficient lot width; deficient front yard set-back and exceeding the maximum residential density. *Application deemed incomplete and no public hearing has been scheduled.*

Loretta to send a memo to the Zoning Board that Lot coverage is in the ordinance for a reason which is to protect the neighbors and environment. Too many variances are being requested, which is inconsistent with the Environmental Commission. Issues for HEC are steep slopes, forest, distance from stream, and coverage impacts.

Bayshore Medical Center, a division of HMH Hospitals Corp
727 N. Beers Street, Block 36, Lots 24, 35.01, 36, 37, 38.01, 38.02 in the R4-Zone ZBA2023-2 Applicant seeks to create a means of egress on Bayshore Drive; add a driveway in the rear of the hospital campus, add parallel parking spaces on the hospital side of Bayshore Drive, and blinking crosswalks and stop signs, add an additional crosswalk at the front of the hospital; add speed bumps; and add two additional signs on the emergency room façade along with lighting improvements. *Application presently in completeness review and no public hearing has been scheduled.*

No HEC input on this application.

Adjournment

There being no further business at 8:10 p.m. **motion** by Tony seconded by Gary to adjourn. Motion carried on voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Loretta Coscia

Loretta Coscia
Secretary

Proceedings recorded
Minutes approved April 19, 2023