

# **Hammonton Environmental Commission**

## **Minutes**

**Wednesday, July 12, 2023**

Call to Order: 7:03 p.m.

Present: Bachalis, Bethmann, Matro, Menzel

Absent: Cafiso, Crowley, Carr, Campos, Hozik

Town Council Liaison:

Hammonton Gazette Reporter: Mohammed Fuad

Guests: Joe Berenato

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of June Minutes: Motion to Approve: Bethmann; Second: Menzel. Approved by acclamation.

Committee Reports

- Town Council – No report.
- Land Use Board – No report.
- Lake Water – Bachalis; The meeting was held on July 11<sup>th</sup>. The committee has found a new snail species in the lake. Emma Witt has done some amazing research lately and has determined that the PH levels are over 9 which is very high. The clean flow pipes have been removed and the committee is hoping that the Town starts cleaning the storm water pipes leading into the lake.
- Great Egg Harbor River Council – No report
- Green Committee – Menzel; The committee met on July 10<sup>th</sup>. The garden is doing well but there has been some pilfering. The committee is looking to modify and improve signage. There have been some shade cover improvements. There were garden talks held on 6/29 and 7/11 and there is another one scheduled for 8/2. The committee is looking into replacing the garden shed. The seed library is going well. Some committee members have been doing road cleanups around Town. The first green market for the season was held on 6/15 and the upcoming markets will be held on 7/20, 8/17 and 9/21. Planning for Green Day will begin soon.
- Bike Advisory – No report.
- Parks & Recreation – No report.

Tree Removal Applications:

1. Robert Barbieri, 555 Pratt St., 2 trees. Motion to approve: Menzel; Second: Bethmann. Approved 4-0.
2. Marylee Kondrach, 112 Maple St., 1 tree. Motion to approve: Matro; Second: Menzel. Approved 4-0.
3. Frank Lucca, 411 S. Egg Harbor Road, 1 tree. Motion to approve: Bethmann; Second: Menzel. Approved 4-0.
4. Vanessa Ingemi-Truncale, 308 S. Grand St., 5 trees. Motion to approve: Bethmann; Second: Menzel. Approved 4-0.

5. Kevin Hinkin, 107 Colwell Ave., 1 tree. Motion to approve: Menzel; Second: Matro. Approved 4-0.
6. Joseph Berenato, 314 W. Pleasant St., 3 trees. Motion to approve: Menzel; Second: Bethmann. Approved 4-0.

#### Old Business

1. Public outreach/Arbor Day student reception was held at the library. Only 2 students with their families attended and stayed for the entire time. This was a great experience. Refreshments were provided by Caciano's.
2. Pollinator garden – The commission has set a tentative planning session date for 8/23 at 4 p.m.
3. Open space plan – The commission has set a tentative date of 8/30 at 6 p.m. to meet and discuss.
4. Tree planting planning – Members are looking into meeting on 7/27 or 7/28 to discuss.
5. Green building/environmental sustainability master plan element – Members are looking into putting together a work group before the end of the year to work on this so that it can be given to the Planning Board.

#### New Business

1. Tree ordinance revision work group – A tentative date for the 3<sup>rd</sup> week in September, possibly September 20<sup>th</sup> from 6-7 p.m.

Adjournment: 7:49 p.m.