



## Morristown Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes

### Regular Meeting

June 7, 2016

7:30pm Meeting, Room 201

Morristown Town Hall

### Commissioners Present:

Maureen Denman, Chair

Justin Protasiewicz

Richard Iseib, Treasurer

Justin Davis

Nathan Umbriac

Steve Pylypchuk, Secretary, Vice Chairperson

Priscilla Grigas, 1st Alternate

Marc Baumann, 2nd Alternate

### Excused:

Michelle Dupree-Harris (Town Council Liaison)

### Guests:

Alison Deeb, Windmill Pond (Morristown Town Councilwoman)

Rev. Allen Wells, 102 Ogden Place

**7:35pm:** Meeting called to order by Chairperson Denman

**1. Moment of Silence**

**2. Roll Call**

- 3. Approval of Minutes:** Motion made and seconded to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2016 regular meeting. Motion passed by unanimous vote by acclamation.

**4. New Business:**

*a. Introduction of New Commissioner, Marc Baumann*

*b. Foote's Pond:* MEC to present to the Town Council on June 28.

*c. Sustainable Morristown:* Commissioner Umbriac, MEC Liaison to Susmo attended the Sustainable Morristown (SUSMO) Meeting on May 23. Commissioner Umbriac debriefed the MEC on the meeting and informed the MEC SUSMO would like to partner for several initiatives, particularly the "Sustainable Jersey" Certification Program in 2017. The MEC and Commissioner Umbriac will continue to work with SUSMO to further this partnership and several initiatives in town.

*d. Finances:* No report

*e. Planning Board:* Tabled: Town Planner Phil Abramson presentation to MEC regarding the 2nd Phase of the Speedwell Redevelopment will be scheduled after the MEC final report on Foote's Pond to Mayor Dougherty.

**5. Ongoing Business:**

*a. Board of Adjustment:* Current application for the addition of a front porch at 70 Mills Street. Application is available for review by the commissioners

*b. MEC Bylaws:* Chairperson Denman will schedule a meeting with Town Attorney Vij Pawar to discuss updating the MEC Bylaws.



- c. **Kleitman Property:** Chairperson Denman will schedule a meeting with Town Administrator Jillian Barrick and Vice Chairperson Pylypchuk as well as a secondary meeting with Town Engineer Anthony DiVizio to discuss the remaining work on the site.
- 6. MEC 2016 Initiatives:**

  - a. **MEC Website:** Vice Chairperson Pylypchuk reported that MEC website is now live at [www.morristownec.org](http://www.morristownec.org). The site is currently an “Under Construction” landing page and more content will be posted soon. Chairperson Denman asked all commissioners to submit a short bio and photograph for inclusion on the website.
  - b. **Grant Committee:** No report. New grant applications will be coming available soon. Committee will reconvene then and reevaluate opportunities.
  - c. **Gardens at Alexander Hamilton School:** Initiative has been tabled until completion of Foote’s Pond report.
  - d. **Community Outreach:** Next upcoming town event will be the Fall Festival on the Green on September 9/25. Discussions proceeded regarding the Commission’s involvement and it was decided to have a table/booth at the event and possibly partner with Sustainable Morristown. Ideas for demonstrations were discussed.
  - e. **Rain Barrel / Composter:** No update
  - f. **Water Restrictions** Commissioner Isleib received sample ordinances from ANJEC and will begin to draft an ordinance to discuss with Mayor Dougherty. Ideas were discussed regarding community outreach on the topic in the meantime and the idea of having Southeast Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority (SMCMUA) provide a blurb on their quarterly water bills directing customers to the MEC website for water conservation information. Chairperson Denman will investigate this possibility
- 7. Open Public Session:**

Councilwoman Alison Deeb addressed the Commission regarding Foote’s Pond and the task the MEC has been charged with by Mayor Dougherty. She stated that she has a petition from 50 members of the public urging the town to dredge the pond, citing flooding concerns, mosquito control issues, and aesthetic issues. She also stated that the Town Council does not need approval from the MEC to dredge and that the NJDEP has told her that no further studies are needed.

Rev. Allen Wells of Ogden Place wd to attend the meeting to hear what type of issues the MEC was looking at as well as Footes Pond. He commended the commissioners for serving and was impressed the Town had an Environmental Commission with a body of environmental professionals..

Chairperson Denman stated to both parties that the MEC has created two committees to address this issue. She also stated that the MEC is made up of engineers and scientists who understand the environmental issues well as well as other members of the public. She also stated that the Commission is working hard to resolve this issue as prudently as possible and that the Commission will be updating the Town Council on June 28.
- 8. Executive Session:** Motion was made and properly seconded to enter Executive Session for the purposes of discussing a draft report from the Professional Review Committee. *Motion passed 7-0-0.*

  - a. Executive Session: Opened at 8:45 pm



- b. Commissioner Protasiewicz provided an update regarding the Draft Report from the Professional Review Committee. Discussions proceeded with input from several Commissioners.
- c. Executive Session: Closed at 9:44 pm

**9. Meeting Adjourned:** 9:45 pm

Next meeting **July 5, 2016 at 7:30pm in Room 201, Town Hall.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Pylypchuk, Secretary, Vice Chairperson