



Morristown Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting

April 4, 2017

7:30pm Meeting, Room 200

Morristown Town Hall

Commissioners Present:

Maureen Denman, Chair

Justin Davis

Steve Pylpchuk, Secretary, Vice Chair

Marc Baumann, 1st Alternate

Priscilla Grigas

Jennifer Markas, 2nd Alternate

Nathan Umbriac

Councilwoman Toshiba Foster (Council Liaison)

Commissioners Excused:

Justin Protasiewicz

7:40pm: Meeting called to order by Chair Denman

- 1. Roll Call**
- 2. Approval of Minutes:** Motion made and seconded to approve the minutes of the March 2017 regular meeting with a correction on a typo in item 2. Motion passed by unanimous vote by acclamation.
- 3. Open Public Session:** No members of public present.
- 4. New Business:**
Office of the Mayor & Business Administrator

Chair Denman briefed the Commission on the MEC's collaboration with the Town and Grow It Green Morristown for the ANJEC 2017 Open Space Grant application. Council President Armington will act as liaison for the project and will provide the MEC with regular updates.

Footes Pond

Chair Denman reported that the Grant submission by the Town through Sustainable Jersey and the PSE&G Foundation for the 8-12month study recommended on Foote's Pond has been pushed back from April 11 to April 30th due to number of submissions received. She also reported the RFP for Foote's Pond Hydrology Study has been put out to bid by the Town and proposals are due April 11, 2017. She reiterated that the MEC is committed to the well-being of the pond.

Kleitman Property

Project remains on schedule with bids due April 27, 2017. The town engineer hopes to have the project complete by the end of June. The MEC will participate in planting efforts on the site.

NJ Highlands Resolution in Support of Clean Water Supplies

Chair Denman briefed the MEC regarding a possible resolution in support of clean water supplies as part of the NJ Highlands Coalition efforts. She provided the supporting rationale and the MEC's support to the Business Administrator and Mayor and expects the resolution should go before the Town Council shortly.

MEC Website

the MEC website will remain under construction for the foreseeable future. All postings will be assumed under the MEC on the Town's Website

Finances

2017 budget being finalized by the Town Administrator and should provide the MEC more information shortly.

Sustainable Morristown (SUSMO) Update

Commissioner Umbriac stated that he has reached out to Sustainable Morristown regarding efforts in pursuing Bronze Certification with Sustainable Jersey but has been unable to connect.

5. Ongoing Business:

A. Board of Adjustment: No applications at this time.

B. Planning Board:

The Commission looked over the current applications; however, MEC is still without a Planning Board Liaison. Commissioner Pylypchuk expressed concern on MPAC Parking Lot plans proposed to replace the lot at the corner of King and Pine St the site of the multi-family dwelling destroyed by fire in 2016 citing the area of impervious surface. Chair Denman reiterated the MEC was not asked to review - the packet is provided for the record to the MEC Chair

C. MEC Bylaws

No update.

D. COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE:

Chair Denman, Commissioners Umbriac and Markas briefed the MEC with new ideas from the Community Outreach Committee. Ideas and initiatives included the following:

- **The Mayor's Lakeside Cleanup** – the proposal was borne out of the Pequannock River Clean-up. Chair Denman provided updates to the planning efforts for this event. Specifically, the Business Administrator Barrick requested the event name be modified with the heading inviting all resident to join the Mayor & his Environmental Commission (exactly how it was done by Pequannock). The finalized flyers are expected by the end of the week. A motion was made in support of the event and properly seconded. Motion passed with a 6-1-0 vote.
- The **COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE** is currently researching a flora/fauna indigenous species with John Peel, the environmental consultant who provided the T&E Assessment on Foote's Pond and are proposing a collaborative planting with the Friend of Footes Pond – with a goal of June 2017.
- The **COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE** is looking into offering composters to the residents & provide a training

- The **COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE** is planning to meet with Morristown Partnership to research the idea of partnering with local farmers to setup a compost exchange program. Morristown Farmer's Market. This program will allow residents who home compost to exchange their compost for specific goods from local farmers.
- The **COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE** is researching pilot program with Morris School District at Lafayette Learning Center to foster & implement a more sustainable recycling practice within the schools in town. Commissioner Umbriac has met with the principal at Lafayette and she has expressed an interest in partnering with the MEC on this effort.
- The **COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE** is also looking into the possibility of Belly Solar Garbage Cans (one currently located in front of Strawberry Fields). Commissioner Umbriac shared information he received from the manufacturer regarding the products.

E. Branding Committee:

Chair Denman has forwarded the Branding Committee's logo ideas to the town's PR firm reviewing the Branding Committee's logo ideas and will provide feedback.

F. Grant Committee:

Grant committee continues its research efforts to find applicable grants for the MEC to review.

G. Morristown Annual Spring Cleanup

The Morristown Spring Cleanup will be on April 22, 2017.

6. Town Council Update

Councilwoman Foster provided an update regarding the Council's concerns regarding Foote's Pond.

Meeting Adjourned 8:50 pm

Next meeting: May 2, 2017 at 7:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Pylypchuk, Secretary, Vice Chair