



B O R O U G H O F R A R I T A N

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Regular Meeting

March 17th, 2022

MINUTES

1) Open Public Meetings Statement:

In accordance with Section 5 of the Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231, Public Law 1975, be advised that adequate notice of this Meeting of the Environmental Commission of the Borough of Raritan, County of Somerset was made by posting on the Raritan Borough website indicating that this Meeting would take place at the Raritan Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m. on March 17th, 2022. In addition, a copy of this notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

2) Roll Call

- In attendance: Juan Alvarez; Olga Metaxas; Emilie Stander; Tony Sacino; Christopher Gussman; Pablo Orozco, Council Liaison
- Not in attendance: Michael DeCicco; Jennie Rose Saunders; Denise Carra, Planning Board Liaison

3) Flag Salute

4) Approval of Minutes: January 20th, 2022

Ms. Metaxas made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Sacino seconded the motion. All members were in favor.

5) Report from Borough Council

Councilman Orozco notified the group that the minutes that are approved by the full group must be submitted to the Borough Clerk, Eric Colvin, so they can be officially recorded. Ms. Stander will take care of this.

6) Report from Planning Board

No members of the Planning Board present.

7) Public Comment

No members of the public present.

8) Discussion Items

9) New Business

- Tree seedling giveaway for Earth Day
The County DPW will drop the seedlings off on Earth Day, April 22. We will not know ahead of time how many we're getting and which species. We will need to plan the giveaway on Saturday, April 23. The group discussed the possibility of identifying a different location from last year, possibly the Nevius St bridge, or next to the Basilone Statue. Both of these are county property, so Mr. Alvarez and Councilman Orozco will contact the appropriate person at the county. Mr. Sacino suggested we should set a rain date for Sunday, April 24.

10) Old Business

- Electric car charging station
We need to discuss the Thompson Lot location with the borough engineer. An installer can help us through the process of approvals.
- Enhanced stormwater ordinance
The group needs to compare the two model ordinances from NJ Future and The Watershed Institute. Once we decide what we want to propose, we can bring our ideas to the borough engineer and the lawyer. They will advise us on when we are ready to bring the proposed ordinance to the Planning Board.

11) Green Team

- a) Review status spreadsheet to determine activities to pursue over the next year
- b) Discuss funding needs and possible sources

These items were tabled until the next meeting. We will invite Ms. Knowles's replacement at Van Clef to attend the next meeting. Mr. Orozco indicated that Ms. Knowles may be willing to help with institutional memory as the replacement gets up to speed.

12) Adjournment

Ms. Metaxas made a motion to adjourn at 7:51pm. Mr. Sacino seconded the motion.