



BOROUGH OF RARITAN, SOMERSET COUNTY
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
January 18, 2018

Chairman Clark called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Chairman Clark read the following Open Public Meetings Act 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 the posting on the bulletin board at the Borough Hall and transmitted to the officially designated newspapers indicating that this Meeting would take place at the Borough Hall, Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m. on January 18, 2018. In addition a copy of this notice is and has been made available to the public and is on file in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.”

The roll call was as follows:

Present: Mark Clark (Chairman), Olga Metaxas, Diana Russo (Secretary), Paul Giraldi (Council Liaison), Michael DeCicco, and Carrie Tozzi
Absent: Eric Wilde and Rick Zack, Planning Board Liaison

Everyone present participated in the Salute to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No minutes were available for approval at this time.

REPORT FROM BOROUGH COUNCIL

No report was made at this time.

REPORT FROM PLANNING BOARD

No report was made at this time as the first meeting of the year will be held on January 24, 2018.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

No members of the public were present at this time.

DISCUSSION ITEM

Chairman Clark reviewed the responsibilities of the Environmental Commission representatives, which can be found in the Association of New Jersey Environmental Commissions handbook found here:

<http://www.anjec.org/pdfs/EnvironmentalCommissionersHandbook-2017.pdf>

Chairman Clark also discussed several additional items including:

1. Encouraging the development of the old Stop & Shop site
2. Working with the county to determine the development and conservation of the riverside area
3. Including the EC in planning the use of the \$1MM grant to connect Duke Farms and the Raritan Train Station
4. Discussing potential joint conservation efforts with Duke Farms
5. Reviewing the Borough Master Plan for EC related information
6. Coordinating at the county level to write and submit grants

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Clark researched the Sustainable Jersey Certification and detailed some of the requirements of achieve the certification. Information for Sustainable Jersey Certification can be found here:

Sustainable Jersey: <http://www.sustainablejersey.com>

Sustainable Jersey Master Action List:

<http://www.sustainablejersey.com/actions-certification/actions/>

After further discussion it was decided to put a motion forth:

Motion – Environmental Commission to Pursue Sustainable Jersey Certification

A motion was made by Ms. Tozzi, seconded by Mr. DeCicco that the Environmental Commission will pursue Sustainable Jersey certification. Said motion was carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

Chairman Clark researched the Raritan Headwaters' Annual Stream Cleanup (April 14, 2018) relative to a small stream on the border of Raritan Borough- and Bridgewater-owned land. After further discussion, it was agreed that the Environmental Commission team members would consider other possible areas that would benefit from a stream cleanup. It was also discussed that the local Girl Scouts may want to participate in this initiative. Information on the Raritan Headwaters Association Annual Stream Cleanup can be found here:

<https://production.gobigriver.com/store/Category.seam?commerceCampaignFormId=3667&categoryId=360&cid=4472>

Chairman Clark researched the Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Station Grant Application through Electrify America. The details around grant submission were outlined, including the January 30, 2018 due date for submissions. It was agreed that Chairman Clark would submit the grant application and a location for the EV station(s) would be decided at a later date.

Chairman Clark proposed a larger community engagement campaign. This includes adding EC information in church bulletins, the Raritan bulletin board (outside Quik Chek), the Borough website, the Breeze, Facebook, and Instagram.

Chairman Clark and Ms. Russo proposed working with other municipalities in coordinating an Earth Day event.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was presented at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Chairman Clark, seconded by Ms. Russo to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. Said motion carried unanimously upon voice vote.

Approved:
Date:

Diana Russo, Secretary