



**BOROUGH OF RARITAN, SOMERSET COUNTY
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
*April 19, 2018***

Chairman Clark called the meeting to order at 7:00 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 April 19, 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), Michael DeCicco, Olga Metaxas, Diana Russo (Secretary), and Paul Giraldi (Council Liaison)

Absent: Carrie Tozzi, Eric Wilde, Rick Zack, Planning Board Liaison

Everyone present participated in the Salute to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Ms. Metaxas, seconded by Mr. DeCicco that the minutes from the Environmental Commission (EC) meeting of March 15, 2018 be approved. Said motion was carried unanimously upon voice vote.

REPORT FROM BOROUGH COUNCIL

No report was made at this time.

REPORT FROM PLANNING BOARD

The case for an increase the impermeable property owned by Bongiovi Funeral Home has been approved.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

No members of the public were present at this time.

DISCUSSION ITEM

Chairman Clark shared statistics from the April 14, 2018 stream cleanup, which was coordinated with the Raritan Headwaters Association:

- The cleanup was for 3 hours, from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.
- The area that was cleaned followed a ½ mile stretch of stream that paralleled Woodmere Street and emptied into the Raritan River Canal
- 51 people attended the cleanup, including member of the Somerville YMCA, UNICO, and the Girl Scouts
- Approximately 25 bags of garbage and 20 bags of recycling were collected which amounted to approximately 750 pounds of trash collected
- The 750 pounds of trash did not include 5 tires, a kiddie pool, a toaster oven, wooden fencing, and a yoga ball and mat
- The event was shared on social media on Instagram @raritanboroughec and on Facebook at the Raritan Headwaters page

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Metaxas shared green tips for around the house:

1. Eggs can be more easily peeled when salt is placed in the boiling water while the egg is cooking.
2. An environmentally friendly way to prevent ants from entering the house, sprinkle flour around areas that ants would enter the house.

Ms. Metaxas also shared a giveaway from the upcoming Bridgewater Eco-Blast Event. This included a reusable shopping bag, plastic travel mug, baseball cap, and a reusable cleaning cloth, all labeled with “Bridgewater Green Neighbor.

OLD BUSINESS

Chairman Clark discussed the upcoming Raritan 70th Anniversary Event on May 5, 2018 from 1p.m. to 4p.m. The Department of Public Works has agreed to pick up and store the seedlings until the event. Chairman Clark has also put in a Purchase Order request for prizes and for a tent for the EC’s use.

Chairman Clark discussed the Green Team proclamation, which is awaiting approval from Mayor McMullin.

Chairman Clark discussed that the Orlando Drive Green Acres public hearing result was still not confirmed, but it was discussed that the borough does not foresee construction to occur on the site.

Additionally, there has been no update on the status of the Electric Vehicle charging station grant application.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ms. Metaxas, seconded by Ms. Russo to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 p.m.
Said motion carried unanimously upon voice vote.

Approved:

Diana Russo, Secretary

Date: