



**BOROUGH OF RARITAN, SOMERSET
COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
*Sept 20, 2018***

Chairman Clark called the meeting to order at 7:06.

Chairman Clark read the following Open Public Meetings Act Statement:

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 the posting on the bulletin board at the Borough Hall and transmitted to the officially designated newspapers indicating that his Meeting would take place at the Borough Hall, Council Chambers at 7:00pm on September 20, 2018. 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.”

The roll call was as follows:

Present: Mark Clark (Chairman), Olga Metaxas, Eric Wilde, Emilie Stander, and Michael DeCicco

Absent: Paul Giraldi, Diana Russo, Rick Zack

Everyone present participated in the Salute to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. DeCicco, seconded by Mr. Wilde, that the minutes from the meeting June 21, 2018 was carried unanimously upon voice vote

REPORT FROM BOROUGH COUNCIL

Mr. DeCicco mentioned by that the RiverFest event will take place on Sun Oct 14. The EC will plan to table at the event. We will need to get a table and tent; Mr. Clark will take care of this. Ms. Metaxas mentioned that there are tabling materials from previous events, including materials for items to give away and literature to distribute. Mr. Clark stated that he had some of these materials in his possession. We'll revisit identifying materials to give away.

REPORT FROM PLANNING BOARD

Lab Corps is expanding. Multi-million dollar project that will bring in 200 more jobs. Nearby houses were demolished to make way for the expansion, and sediment fence has been erected. At Johnson Dr. Industrial Park is a series of warehouses owned by Johnson Associates. They are seeking approval to sub-divide some of those. Increasing impervious area coverage from 68 to 68.4%; this would trigger them to have to justify this change and perhaps get a variance, as the maximum allowed is 60%. Mr. Clark suggested the owners complete the Green Development Checklist; he will reach out to Rick Zack about this.

Quik Chek grand opening October 2.

Post Office received Congressional approval for renaming; ceremony will be inside the church next door. Ceremony will take place September 21 at 10am.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

No members of the public present

DISCUSSION ITEMS

The following topics were covered:

- a. Mr. Clark mentioned recent conversations with Mayor McMullin relating to stormwater and maintenance of storm drains. The Green Team is looking to partner with nearby towns in Somerset County to submit a grant proposal to Sustainable Jersey to conduct public education activities around stormwater. If planning board applications continue to go forward that will increase hardscaping, this could result in flooding and increased stormwater flows to the river. Mr. Clark mentioned interest in the adopt-a-storm drain program, so that homeowners would keep track of the storm drains and report problems to Public Works. He would like to distribution information about this program at the RiverFest. He also mentioned rain barrel programs. Mr. Wilde also mentioned filters that attach to the storm drains to prevent sediment and litter from entering the large opening. Ms. Stander also mentioned the drain guards that hang under the grates to capture litter; we could propose to pilot some of these through the Sustainable Jersey grant program. Mr. Clark and Mr. Wilde also mentioned the possibility of installing rain gardens on public properties in the Borough. Ms. Stander mentioned the 319h grant proposal as means of getting funding for this type of program.
- b. Ms. Metaxas mentioned recent sewer repairs on Richard St. A neighbor told her she got a notice that there will be additional repairs in the future.
- c. Mr. Clark will be traveling during our next scheduled meeting. The members agreed to reschedule the meeting to Thursday, October 11 and make it a Green Team meeting. Mr. Clark will inquire about meeting space.
- d. Mr. Clark will begin to pull together materials for the RiverFest but would like help with this. Mr. Clark will reach out to the Girl Scout troop leader to see if they can help

organize activities for children at the table.

- e. Mr. Clark provided information about Electrify America's program to install electric car charging stations as part of the VW settlement. Raritan Borough would need to take over maintenance responsibilities post-installation. Borough Hall would be a potential location. Mr. DeCicco also mentioned the new parking spots on Canal Rd as a possibility.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. DeCicco, seconded by Ms. Metaxas, to adjourn the meeting at 7:51pm. Said motion carried unanimously upon voice vote.

Approved:

Date: