

BLOOMFIELD ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES

February 16, 2022

I. Call to Order - 7:33pm by Chair Cailyn Bruno

II. Attendance:

Present: Cailyn Bruno (Chair), Flint Kinkade, Rich Moseson, Susan Marano, John Evangelista, Gregory Babula, Nick Joanow (Council liaison), Peter Mock (guest), Michael Heller (BOE liaison), Genevieve Reoch (guest)

Absent: Christian Delcroix, Sophie Sawyer

III. Approval of Minutes – January minutes approved

IV. Old Business

Outreach Subcommittee – Discussed content ideas for posting to the Commission's Facebook page. Rich gave an update on the School's Green Team meeting and upcoming meeting with Glen Ridge's Environmental Commission as liaison with the Friends of Watsessing Park Conservancy. Decided that the submittals for Bloomfield Buzz should be on the upcoming plastic bag and styrofoam food container ban. There is an upcoming webinar that might be of interest from wildones.org on weed ordinances on March 23rd.

Ordinance Review: Letter was submitted to the Health Department and a response is pending.

ERI Subcommittee: Comments on the ERI were submitted to CME.

Sustainable Jersey Subcommittee: Sustainable Jersey and the Recycling Committee have an initiative to fundraise for reusable bags to distribute to the community and businesses.

ANJEC Grants: There are small grants available for Environmental Commissions through ANJEC. BEC discussed possible projects related to promoting more pollinator gardens to enhance the pollinator pathway in Bloomfield, which include pollinator lawn demonstration with signage, educational materials and milkweed distribution at the Farmer's Market.

V. New Business

1. Climate Change Presentation - John Evangelista presented on climate change and the impact on redlined areas. Major impacts include flooding and heat islands. He presented satellite images of impervious surfaces and tree coverage that show the direct correlation to climate impacts to redlined neighborhoods. The climate crisis will be expensive and deadly especially to those areas. Green infrastructure needs to be

implemented to mitigate some impacts. Cailyn presented Resilient NJ: Local Planning for Climate Change toolkit by the NJDEP. As of 2021, climate vulnerability assessments are required to be conducted as part of municipal master plan updates.

VI. Next Meeting: March 16, 2022 (Virtual)

VII. Adjournment – 9:00 pm