

BLOOMFIELD ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES

August 17, 2022

I. Call to Order - 7:35pm by Chair Cailyn Bruno

II. Attendance:

Present: Cailyn Bruno (Chair), Rich Moseson, Gregory Babula, Sophie Sawyer, Nick Joanow (Council liaison), Paul Russo (guest), Peter Mock (guest), Tom Purtell (guest - Township Forester)

Absent: Susan Marano, John Evangelista, Flint Kinkade

III. Approval of Minutes – July minutes not available

IV. Discussion Township Forester - Tom Purtell was present to discuss the Township Forestry Plan, tree removal, and care of newly planted trees. He gave an overview of his responsibilities to the Township, which includes a backlog of 75-80 trees requested by residents. Mr. Purtell explained that the forestry plan in Bloomfield is adapted to the urban nature of our infrastructure, available habitat, and enhancement of biodiversity of the trees in the township. Regarding watering newly planted trees, Mr. Purtell cited available resources as a challenge. The areas referenced are along Glenwood Ave. and in front of the Children's Library.

Mr. Purtell also discussed the spotted lanternfly and said that the infestation will only last about 2 seasons. He stated that we should keep an eye on a virus that impacts the Beech Trees.

V. Old Business

Outreach Subcommittee – Buzz article - Water Quality Month

ERI Subcommittee: No update

V. New Business

Empty Lots on Lawrence Street - Dry conditions have caused dust from empty lots to blow around the neighborhood. It was recommended that the matter is investigated by the Health Department.

VI. Next Meeting: September 21, 2022 (Virtual)

VII. Adjournment – 8:50 pm