

# **BLOOMFIELD ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES**

**January 20, 2021**

**I. Call to Order** - 7:35pm

**II. Roll Call** - Oliver Young, Cailyn Bruno, Flint Kinkade, Greg Babula, Nick Joanow, Rich Moseson. Guests: Florence Rollino, Genevieve Reoch, Chris Murray.

**III. Approval of Minutes** – December 2020 minutes approved.

## **IV. Old Business**

- a) Bloomfield Buzz Article - Rich to continue writing articles in 2021. February article: announce vacancies for commission.
- b) ERI Subcommittee - Oliver to send Nick an email regarding what funds are available from SJ grant and what would be requested from the township. Nick to initiate discussion with the township administrator to see what is possible for this year.
- c) Sustainable Jersey Recertification Subcommittee - Flint will replace Matt on the subcommittee. It was discussed whether the BEC should take leadership for the recertification process or continue to assist the former Greener Bloomfield members. Agreed that there is a benefit to the township for retaining SJ status and discussed resources to move forward. Suggested Molly present what points are remaining and to make a decision at the next meeting. It was suggested that the BEC do outreach on Facebook. Need to decide by next month's meeting.
- d) NJ Composting Council - Oliver will send follow-up email to let them know the BEC would be interested in a presentation.
- e) Essex-Hudson Greenway Project - Will send letter of support to County Commissioners. Oliver to follow up with Montclair Bike/Walk to inform them of BEC's interest in a presentation on the project.
- f) Stormwater Management Ordinance Update - Nick spoke with township engineer Paul Lasek who is preparing the new ordinance. Nick expressed that the commission would like to review before submission.
- g) Brownfields Inventory - No update.
- h) Library/Civic Center Update - Council voted and approved moving forward for redeveloping this property. Planning board will work with a planner on a redevelopment plan, but this is not on the planning board's agenda for January or February. On the agenda is the plan for an apartment building on Montgomery St, which is looking for variances on parking and DEP floodway limit and flood storage volume limit.

## **V. New Business**

a) Secretary and Chair positions - Looking for volunteers for commission secretary and chair. Oliver nominated to continue as chair for 2021.

b) Membership drive - BEC will advertise commission vacancies via Buzz and Facebook.

c) Bloomfield Schools Update - Rich attended the school's Green Team meeting. They discussed Sustainable Schools points which are coordinated on a district level. Genevieve will be liaison and keep the school's Green Team and BOE updated on what the BEC is working on. Clark's Pond outdoor classroom area will be cleaned in the Spring. They discussed possible Earth Day activities. Genevieve mentioned that the Bloomfield Environmental Club will be interested in any activities the BEC plans for Earth Day.

d) Sustainable Jersey LED Bulbs - Bloomfield requested 1,500 bulbs from SJ. Nick will keep everyone updated.

e) Wishlist/focus for 2021 - Continue milkweed relocation program at the former Peerless Tube site; obtain opportunities to influence new developments for green space and sustainability; revised stormwater ordinance; environmental justice and diversity on commission; more engagement with High School students; pushing through ERI and influencing over Master Plan; ordinance review; Essex County Rails to Trails project. Oliver mentioned there is an invitation to a screening of an environmental justice documentary from Essex County.

**VI. Next Meeting:** February 17th, 2021 – 7:30pm (virtual)

**VII. Adjournment** - 9:34 pm