

BLOOMFIELD ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES

June 16, 2021

I. Call to Order - 7:35pm

II. Roll Call - Oliver Young (chair), Rich Moseson, Gregory Babula, Christian Delcroix, Susan Marano, Sofie Sawyer, Flint Kinkade, John Evangelista (guest), Genevieve Reoch (student observer), Nick Joanow (council liaison)

III. Approval of Minutes – May 2021 minutes approved.

IV. Old Business

- a) Outreach Subcommittee – Rich Moseson submitted an article regarding environmental hazards of litter for the June 2021 paper copy of the Bloomfield Buzz. Rich will submit an article for next edition of the eBuzz regarding environmental benefits of restored wetlands in Lion Gate Park.
- b) ERI Subcommittee – The Township Council voted to award the contract for the ERI to CME at the June 15 conference meeting; the contract award will be finalized upon second reading and vote at the next council general meeting on June 28.
- c) Sustainable Jersey Recertification Subcommittee - Recertification application was submitted prior to deadline; response from Sustainable Jersey may not be forthcoming for a few months.
- d) Essex-Hudson Greenway Project – No further updates available at this time.
- e) Stormwater Management Ordinance Update - Christian Delcroix volunteered to join the Stormwater Management Ordinance subcommittee. Gregory Babula advised the Commission that the Planning Board will receive a briefing on the township's new stormwater management ordinance from the PB's consulting engineer Anthony Marucci; Greg will report back to the Commission following this presentation. John Evangelista volunteered to participate in the subcommittee.
- f) New Jersey Comfort Partners Program - Oliver will reach out to Sustainable Jersey Essex Hub to follow-up on the possibility of scheduling an information meeting as requested by Essex Hub.
- g) Grant Cycles - No update.
- h) Vacant EC position: Currently one vacant alternate position; Oliver will be stepping down from the commission in July or August due to relocation outside Bloomfield, creating another vacancy. John Evangelista has expressed an interest for consideration for appointment to the EC; John currently works for a non-profit in the environmental sector.

V. New Business

- a) Outreach Subcommittee – Rich (representing EC) and Susan Moseson (Bloomfield Beautification Committee) presented a program on pollinator pathways to 45 people at a recent Bloomfield Schools staff professional development seminar.
- b) Rich Moseson proposed the EC submit letters to our state legislative representatives expressing our support for state funding for the New Jersey School of Conservation (NJSOC) in Stokes State Forest, which has recently reopened under the auspices of a newly created non-profit organization, following closure of the school last year by Montclair State University citing the financial impact from the COVID-19 pandemic, for consideration before the state budget must be adopted by June 30. The Commission unanimously agreed to express our support of state funding for the NJSOC. Flint Kinkade volunteered to compose and submit the letters on behalf of the EC.

VI. Next Meeting: July 21, 2021 – 7:30pm (virtual)

VII. Adjournment - 8:40 pm