



Hamilton Environmental Commission
2090 Greenwood Ave., Hamilton, NJ 08609
Madison Mather, Secretary
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**Minutes from the July 12, 2023
Environmental Commission Meeting**

Present

John Balletto	Clinton Griggs	Carrie Feuer
Robert Benjamin	Claudia Shaughnessy	Haig Kasabach
Andrew Garcia	Karl Vetter	William Wall
Cathy Wagner	Theodore Beuhler	

Not Present

Rick Tighe	Ann Wolf	Nicole Provost
JoAnne Bruno	Nicolina Contardo	Patrick Nemes

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:30 p.m. by John Balletto. The minutes from the June 14, 2023 meeting were approved with motion by Karl Vetter and second by Claudia Shaughnessy.

Green Team

1. Mayor Jeff Martin attended. The Mayor briefed us on several matters.
 - a. New Municipal Building will be LEEDS certified Silver, possibly Gold.
 - b. Community Garden update
 - c. EV Charging Stations
 - i. Park station status
 - ii. Pursuing grants for additional stations (e.g. at new Municipal Building)
 - d. Administration obtained a \$300,000 grant for maintenance and improvements to Sayen Gardens
 - e. Administration obtained a \$300,000 grant for an electric garbage truck which will be used to collect recyclable waste not collected by MCIA such as leaves and yard waste.
 - f. Fire District properties will be used for pollinator gardens
 - g. The Administration is in the process of acquiring the Kuser Warehouse property. In addition, the Administration is looking at properties with large liens for

- acquisition by the Township.
 - h. The Administration has received a total of \$3 million in Grants.
 - i. The Township is in the process of renewing its contract with MCIA for recycling disposal.
 - j. The Mayor answered several questions from the Commission.
2. Pollinator Gardens
 - a. Nothing new to report.
 4. Wildflower Meadow (Claudia Shaughnessy)
 - a. Claudia reported that she has access to the meadow across from the Call Center and has been watering it.
 5. Signs (Carrie Feuer/Claudia Shaughnessy)
 - a. Nothing new to report

Old Business

1. Council/Mayor's Liaison Update (Carrie Feuer)
 - a. Calendar information needs to be provided to administration.
 - b. The Commission needs to develop a communication program taking advantage of available social media avenues that the Township has to get the messages out to the citizens
2. Invasive species (John Balletto)
 - a. The program outline was edited per the direction of the Commission into two phases, planning and implementation. A summary of the program is also being prepared for submission to Millennium.
3. Food Waste Recycling update (JoAnne Bruno)
 - a. Millennium is in the process of identifying grant opportunities.
4. Grants (Clint Griggs)
 - a. No comments
5. ERI (Clint)
6. Recycling. Former Commissioner Rod Richards provided a list of ideas of ways to improve recycling in the Township. Rd and Rob Benjamin will develop a communication plan to provide additional education.
7. The Green Team Mission Statement was formally approved by the Commission and Green Team.

New Business

Karl Vetter provided a review of the current applications and updated reports submitted by applicants for the Kuser Road warehouse and the Congoleum applications. The Concerns re Kuser Road may be somewhat moot due to the fact that the Township may be acquiring the property but may become a potential cleanup plan. The Congoleum property has deferred several cleanup issues to an engineering report to be submitted to the Zoning Commission. When that report is reviewed, The Commission comments will be provided to the Zoning Commission through the Commission through our liaison, Haig Kasabah.

Land Use Applications

The following applications were reviewed:

Application No: 23-07-018

The Commission is concerned with the granting of the variance of the distance from the project to the residential properties being reduced from the required 500 feet to 27.8 feet due to increased exposure to air pollutants to the several adjacent residences. The Commission recognizes the current exposure from the existing gas station. The Commission recommends a taller heavy-duty vegetation screen near the adjacent residences. The Commission also recommends flipping the project to increase the distance of the carwash from the residences.

Application No: 23-07-017

No comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Next Meeting Wednesday, August 9, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.
Council Conference, 2090 Greenwood Avenue

Submitted by Madison Mather, Secretary to the Hamilton Township Environmental Commission

cc: Environmental Commission/Liaisons

Mayor Jeff Martin Kathryn Monzo, Business Administrator Fred Dumont, Director of
CPC Alison Sabo, Municipal Clerk

Robert Poppert, Supervising Planner Samantha Brown, Township Engineer