

Environmental Commission Board Meeting – July 12th 2022

Call to Order by Chair

Open Public Meeting Notice read by Commission Lawyer

Pledge of Legion and Moment of Silence led by Chairwoman Seemuller

Roll Call taken by Commission Lawyer – See the table on page 3

Adoption of Minutes – May 10th, 2022 were adopted; see vote on page 3

Public Hearings: No Public Hearings

Open Discussion:

1. Community Solar
 - a. Gina Cohl invited Yvette Viasus from Solar Landscape to discuss community solar
 - b. Mount Laurel was approved for the 2nd stage of the community solar project by the Board of Public Utilities and a township resolution was approved by the township in January 2021 (Resolution 21-R-46).
 - c. Solar panels are installed on warehouse roofs so no land is used.
 - d. Yvette discussed that a second resolution would be recommended to give discount to residents.
 - e. The community solar project is designed to give access to clean energy to low income households in surrounding communities. 55% of the energy will be open to low income households and the remaining 45% open to all residents. Program is first come first serve as there are limited spots.
 - f. Community Tool Kit will be available at end of July.
 - g. Enrollment portal will also open at the end of July.
 - h. Karen and Brandon will discuss the marketing/advertisement and 2nd resolution with Meredith and George (township lawyer).
 - i. Community Solar program would also qualify for Sustainable Jersey Actions.
2. Tree City USA – No update
3. Natural Resource Inventory (NRI)
 - a. Is in final review – township planner is reviewing
 - b. No conflicts with the Master Plan
 - c. Toni will add one line about community solar
4. Environmental Information Centers – no updates
5. Environmental Commission Table Cloth – no updates
6. Top Golf Volunteers
 - a. Gina still working out details with Meredith and Jerry on budget for planting trees and garden surrounding the sign at the community garden.
7. Voluntary Local Reviews for Mount Laurel Township – Mr. Singh introduced concept to board
 - a. Sustainability Development goals outlined by the United Nations
 - b. The program includes Voluntary local review and monitoring
 - c. Mr. Singh will provide board with links for more details and will prepare a presentation on the program

8. Mount Laurel Food Truck Event
 - a. Date is Sept 18th at Municipal complex
 - b. Board decided to have an information table at event – Sandy, Marinna and Karen will man the table
9. Educational Subcommittee
 - a. Taking advice from commission lawyer to provide educational outreach a subcommittee will be formed
 - b. Board voted on subcommittee formation on page 3
 - c. Sandy Carleton and Gina Cohl will form the subcommittee
10. Open Discussion
 - a. Mandy Skalski requested a collection bin at the recycling center for deflated soccer balls to be donated to the animal shelter. Mandy will follow up with the shelter if other deflated balls could also be used such as football and basketballs.
 - b. Mandy Skalski requested a location in the township for a book smiles collection. Councilwoman Karen Cohen indicated that the township supported Book Smiles. Location just needs to be provided and collection period.

Meeting Adjourned – motion by Gina Cohl and 2nd by Sandra Carleton. All were in Favor.

Next Meeting is Tuesday August 9th 2022 at 7pm.

Environmental Commission Board Attendance

		Attendance	Absent
Chairwoman	Marinna Seemuller	x	
Citizen	Sandra Carleton	x	
Citizen	Gina Cohl	x	
Citizen	Bhupindar Singh	x	
Citizen – Planning Board Rep	Ramesh Venkatakrishnan	x	
Citizen Alt 1	Christopher Hughes		x
Citizen Alt 2	Mandy Skalski	x	
Councilmember	Karen Cohen	x	
Township Rep	Brandon Shillingford	x	
Professional	Toni Sapio	X	
Lawyer	Richard Briigliodoro	x	
Lawyer	Ron Cucchiaro		x

Vote on Adopting Minutes from June 14, 2022 Meeting

		Motion	AYE	NAY	Abstained	Absent
Chairwoman	Marinna Seemuller		x			
Citizen	Sandra Carleton	2 nd	x			
Citizen	Gina Cohl	1 st	x			
Citizen	Bhupindar Singh		x			
Citizen – Planning Board Rep	Ramesh Venkatakrishnan		x			
Citizen Alt 1	Christopher Hughes					x
Citizen Alt 2	Mandy Skalski				x	

Vote on forming Educational Subcommittee

		Motion	AYE	NAY	Abstained	Absent
Chairwoman	Marinna Seemuller		x			
Citizen	Sandra Carleton	2 nd	x			
Citizen	Gina Cohl	1 st	x			
Citizen	Bhupindar Singh		x			
Citizen – Planning Board Rep	Ramesh Venkatakrishnan		x			
Citizen Alt 1	Christopher Hughes					x
Citizen Alt 2	Mandy Skalski		x			