

GLEN ROCK ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Municipal Building, Harding Plaza, Glen Rock, NJ 07452

MINUTES - Meeting of Wednesday April 21, 2021

Ben Meyer (P)	Scott King (A)	Candace Lynch (P)
Lesley Elton (P)	Sylvia Rabacchi (P)	Amy Martin (Council Liaison) (P)
Ken Jones (P)	Ann Marie Brennan (P)	

(P -) Present

(A)- Absent

Alternates: Laura Occhipinti (P), Sara Froikin-Gordon (A)

Green Team: Jessica Caron (P)

Shade Tree Advisory Committee: Elaine Silverstein (P), Candy Hall (P)

Guests:

Call to Order

Site Plan Review – None to report

Planning Board Report

Agenda Topic/Owner	Key Points	Next Action Steps
Minutes approval	Minutes of March 17, 2021 meeting to be approved.	Minutes approved
Feature topic: All	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SJ recertification 2021 – Update on the status of the actions being pursued 2. Earth day activities: co-sponsoring Earth Day Green Week with Arboretum for hybrid in person/online events, EV car shows (virtual + in person) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Submission deadline: 6/6 Went over the entire list of action assigned to each GREC member. We have now completed actions to potentially reach 205 points (150=Bronze level, 350pt = Silver level certification) 2. Earth day activities: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. GREC is hosting a table on Friday and Saturday 4/23, and 4/24 (Sylvia, Ann Marie and Jessica), and an EV car show on Friday 4/23 (Ken with help from SJ Bergen Hub). We will also offer two virtual workshops (composting on Monday 4/26 and Sustainable food choices on Thursday 4/29). B. GREC participated to a virtual EV presentation on 4/20/2021 by the SJ Hub EV committee (57 participants) (Ken and Sylvia)
UPDATES: STAC Updates/ Silverstein, Hall	Shade Tree Advisory Committee report. Tree Protection Ordinance	<p>Elaine reports that a contract was signed to treat the Ash trees; treatment will start very soon. 11-12 trees from the Tree Trust will be planted. Tree Care 1010 virtual presentation next week as part of the Earth day Green week celebration.</p> <p>Tree protection ordinance is in progress.</p>
ERI planning/Rabacchi	Environmental Resource Inventory under review	Sylvia and Ben are reviewing the draft from the borough planner. We will submit our latest draft

		with the SJ recertification application and then finalize it in the summer if allowed.
EV chargers/Meyer	Usage update, and fee charging options	GREC presented a proposal to the mayor and council in March to set a charging fee (proposed \$1.25 or \$1.50/h) to partially recoup the cost of electricity. GREC is now working with the borough planner to amend the zoning code to include EV chargers for dwelling with 5 units or more.
Rain Garden/Elton	Plan for installation of rain garden	Lesley: installation will take place in mid-May.
Stormwater Mngmt ordinance/Kreibich, Meyer	Update on Stormwater Management ordinance	Updates to the ordinance for Minor development will be approached soon. A webinar on this topic is scheduled for 4/22, presented by the NJ Watershed Institute.
Community Clean Up/Occhipinti	Report on annual Community Clean up on April 17 th (9:30-11:30am)	Very successful event: ~200 people signed up and collected a LOT of garbage from parks and public areas in town
Plant Exchange/Occhipinti	Report on the new Plant Exchange program	First time GREC runs this program: it went very well with ~50 people attending and exchanging the plants they had previously propagated.
Faith Communities/Brennan	Outreach to faith communities on sustainability	Ann Marie attended a meeting with the borough Faith Communities organization and solicited participation to form a new group focused on Green Faith Communities.
New Business	Key Points	
Code update to included backyard composting /	Current code Ch 162 Art II needs to be updated to include the option of using the fallen leaves for composting by residents (https://www.ecode360.com/10100067#10100092 - under "general standards")	It was noted that the current code on composting is in contradiction with the messages promoting composting and leave the leaves. Language should be amended to include open composting and leaving the leaves in the residents' yards. Amy will draft and share with GREC.
PUBLIC COMMENT	None	

Adjournment: 9:00pm