

GLEN ROCK ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Municipal Building, Harding Plaza, Glen Rock, NJ 07452

MINUTES - Meeting of Wednesday November 17, 2021

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

(A) Absent

(P) Present

Shade Tree Advisory Committee: Elaine Silverstein, Candy Hall

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

Guests: Michelle Tyler

Call to Order

Site Plan Review – None to report

Planning Board Report

| Agenda Topic/Owner | Key Points | Summary |
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| Minutes approval | Minutes of October 20, 2021 approved. | Minutes approved |
| Feature topic: 2022 Goals/Rabacchi | Finalizing GREC Goals for 2022 | <p>Reviewed our 2022 goals. Each GREC member will prepare a list of individual goals for projects to be implemented in 2022. At the December meeting we will make sure to align all individual goals with the collective GREC goals.</p> <p>Current draft goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Climate change mitigation/adaptation<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Lower GHG: Climate Action plan (aligning goals with boards/committees), maintain renewable energy plan for residents, explore solar, energy efficiency outreach (residential and commercial), EV (continue to promote/educate, add EVs to municipal fleet, fleet inventory), education campaign on electric/battery-operated landscaping equipment (list of sustainable landscapers)b. Stormwater ordinance for minor subdivisionsc. Tree protection ordinance, promoting native tree planting2. Styrofoam collection: assist DPW in setting up permanent collection3. Water bottle-filling stations for Alcove and park4. Green building (SJ actions)<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Green Development Checklist |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Green building education c. Green building resolution <p>5. Additional goals: complete landscaping at EV charging stations, community clean up, maintaining rain garden and pollinator (order signs), continue education regarding backyard composting, leaves the leaves, promote native plants, discourage chemical fertilizers, TerraCycle bottle cap collection</p> |
| UPDATES: STAC Updates/ Silverstein, Hall | Shade Tree Advisory Committee report Tree Protection Ordinance | Elaine reported that 60 trees will be planted, half now and half in early Spring. STAC will present to the borough council a summary of the current threats (pests) to trees in our area |
| Sustainable Jersey | Update on SJ certification. SJ symposium at the NJ League of Municipalities annual meeting | Silver certification obtained. Ken presented at the “Bringing the clean energy revolution to your community” symposium on EV and R-GEA. Slides shared with GREC members. |
| Styrofoam recycling / Jones, Lynch | Update on plans for permanent collection in Glen Rock | Candace reported on a first meeting that was held with councilmembers Amy Martin and Teresa Gilbreath and also Ken and Bob Buono from DPW. Bob expressed very favorable feedback to developing a Styrofoam recycling program. A dedicated container will be set up at the recycling center for residents to drop off their packaging styrofoam. DPW will purchase a container with rollers to bring the collected Styrofoam to the recycling facility. They may need help from GREC volunteers for the first few months to sort and bag the Styrofoam collected. Bob asked GREC for help to improve signage and education about electronics recycling. |
| EV chargers/Meyer, Martin | Usage update, and fee charging options | Sylvia reports that we have just received an update from Chief Ackerman that as soon as they receive signage for the EV parking spaces they will set up ParkMobile as “payment zone”. GREC may help with publicity. |
| Faith Communities/ Brennan | Outreach to faith communities on sustainability | Candy proposes to suggest to religious organizations to divest from fossil fuel. |
| New Business | Key Points | |
| Recycling/Rabacchi | Recycling outreach refresher: updating the Recycling the Right way card and insertion into calendar. | Ken and Sylvia are updating the Recycling the Right Way card to be sent to all residents possibly together with the calendar. A few revisions suggested by the group. |
| SJ Bergen Hub/Jones | Update on Bergen Hub activities | Ken updates the group of a new grant for energy by the BPU that will be announced soon. Leonia and Teaneck passed an ordinance to set up their R-GEA programs. Ridgewood is considering the same. |
| Climate Action Plan/Kreibich | Development of a CAP for Glen Rock | Sylvia reported that Arati had a first introductory meeting with the SJ group and will get one-on-one help soon. |
| Break free from | Proposal to make Glen | Michelle brought the idea to eliminate plastic from our |

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| plastic/Tyler | Rock a Plastic Free zone | restaurants/food establishments. Discussed ideas for how to promote this in the borough. Candace proposes to have GREC help educate businesses on the new NJ state law banning food-contact Styrofoam and offer ideas for alternative to plastic. Sylvia reminds the group of previous plans for the development of a Businesses recognition program that can be implemented as part of this effort. Ken reminds the suppliers lists being prepared by the SJ Bergen Hub Plastic committee. We will try to form a committee focus on this. |
| COP 26/Brennan | Report on the Nov 2021 UN Change Conference of the Parties (COP 26) | Ann Marie reported her participation to the conference in Glasgow, Scotland. She attended the march with another 100,000 people. Since they were not able to reach specific agreements on specific commitments with accountability elements, they will meet again in 1 year, instead of the customary 5, specifically to discuss a fossil fuel non-proliferation treaty. |
| PUBLIC COMMENT | | |

Adjournment: 9:08pm