

Englewood Environmental Commission

Agenda for Monday March 13, 2023

via Zoom Virtual Meeting, 7:00 pm

- Meeting called to order by Chair Crystal Brown at 7:16 p.m.

- Roll Call:

Present: Crystal Brown, Jack Silberstein, Danielle Nyman, June Gregg, Mary Truesdale, Reema Martel, Steve Wiessner, Frantz Volcy, Michael Passow; Guests: Charlotte Bennet Schoen, Jane Kendall, Natalie Beaumont, Jacqueline Wisner; abs. Eda Greenbaum, Max Walters

Minutes of the January 2023 meeting will be discussed next month.

#### Communications

Has everyone taken commissioner training? Emails about current opportunities are available; refresher courses are encouraged; now all virtual.

ANJEC has a round-table seminar about food wastes in NJ on 3/28; also offered virtually and last 35 -60 minutes. Contact Crystal for sign-up information.

☐ Bills/Claims or Mail: none

☐ Minutes for February 13 accepted as read, January minutes will be available next month.

☐ Women's Club (WC) Guest(s)

WC wants to do a project about Englewood beautification., possibly a rain garden. Jacqueline is a State Women's Club officer, and the Englewood Club would like to provide something for the City. Potential cost could be on the order of several thousand dollars. All must be custom designed. Frantz reported that the City is already looking at several sites to alleviate flooding issues in town. Some sites include 50 Williams St., and near Greco School. Rutgers University designs about 15 per year and refer to landscape designers. The City may want to have public input. There are many other projects under consideration. A pollinator garden would also be of interest. JEDMS HAS A 'CAPS FOR A CAUSE' PROGRAM UNDERWAY. IT SEEMS OBVIOUS THAT AN ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT COORDINATION COMMITTEE SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED.

There are underutilized planters in Eleanor Harvey Park that could be the focus of future projects. The Englewood House may be in place by early June, and specific plans can be made when it is ready.

☐ Subcommittee Updates

o Shade Tree - June & Frantz

Frantz reported the City Council will review the tree ordinance and selection of trees, and June has nothing else to report. Utility companies are under federal mandates to upgrade infrastructure. A concerted effort is being made to make the new structures more 'tree-1friendly.'

o Flat Rock Brook – Steve

Ready to start the Boardwalk reconstruction. Jones Road project is also moving along. FRB appreciated the LOS from the EEC. Permits are being issued, so actions may soon follow.

FRB is trying to be more inclusive. Informative materials are being prepared in several languages.

Summer camp registration is starting.

50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year-long celebration. Gala on April 20.

o Englewood Historical Society/Taylor - Bliss Project – Michael

Things are moving forward and should be in place during the summer. .

o Green Team - Mary & Max: Nothing new

o JDMS S.T.E.M. – Crystal & Reema

Students engaged in 'caps for a cause.' Students will visit Bronx Botanical Gardens later this week.

o Open Space/Community Gardens/Bees - Crystal & Jack

Bees will be available again in April.

o Special Events, Earth Day

☐ Old or New Business

☐ Adjournment 9:11 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Michael J. Passow

