

MINUTES FOR THE RE-ORGANIZATION MEETING OF

THE HIGHTSTOWN ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Meeting Date and Time: February 27, 2024 at 7pm

Meeting Location: Hightstown Historical Society

Attendees:

Michael Bollentin (Chair)
Joseph Studholme (Vice Chair)
Henry Wang (Secretary)
Tom Muza
Lucia Middleton (Watershed Institute)
Isabella Fowler
David Zaiser (Shade Tree Official)
Gary Grubb

Absent:

Todd Frantz (Council Liaison)
Shani Peretz

1. **Open Public Meeting Act Statement: In Compliance with Chapter 213 of the Public Laws of 1975, notice of this meeting was given by way of the Annual Notice published in the Trenton Times and Princeton Packet by the Borough Clerk and posted on the Borough Website.**
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Agenda was approved
3. **Attendance:** see above. Note that there is a new member Judy Schuler, but she was not present at this meeting.
4. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** Regular meeting minutes from January 9, 2024 were approved.
5. **Shade Tree Matters:** David's report was distributed to the EC on February 25, 2024.
6. **Arbor Day:** Arbor day is April 21st.
7. **Youth Leadership Internship:**
 - a. There was a suggestion that the Commission should provide refreshments for the final presentation, which could cost between \$200 to \$300.
 - b. Final meeting will be March 26th. Members of the EC will attend in lieu of the monthly meeting.
 - c. EC will request the presence of Borough Councilmembers and the Mayor.
 - d. Lucia confirmed that Watershed representatives will be there, and Sustainable Jersey member will be invited.
 - e. Lucia is also monitoring the Water Story project.
8. **Hightstown Master Plan:** no further comments.
9. **Complete Streets Committee –** Mobility Plan Implementation (recurring item on agenda)

- a. There was an engineering report regarding Summit Street improvements. Complete Streets submitted its recommendations, namely to install as many sidewalks as is feasible.
- b. The Committee will continue to push for Vision Zero.

10. **Sustainable Jersey** (recurring item on the agenda): no updates

11. Old Business

- a. The stream cleanup will take place on Sunday, April 21st. The Watershed will bring some t-shirts to give away, and Lucia will provide some outreach to Spanish speaking members of the community.
- b. Tom will follow up on getting a shredding company.

12. **New Business**: none

13. **Parks and Recreation**: none

14. **Planning Board Update**: none

15. **Grants and Funding Update**: none

16. **Plan Review**:

- a. 115 Monmouth Street (Mount's Garage): EC suggested providing additional stormwater management, for a commercial property that would mean installing a retention basin.

17. **Liaison updates**:

- a. The Watershed Institute: none
- b. Meadow Lakes: none
- c. Peddie School: none
- d. Hightstown High School: none

18. **Correspondence**: None

19. **Conferences and Workshops**: None

20. **Council Updates**: Michael spoke to Todd, the budget for the Greenway will remain the same.

21. **Adjournment**