

PRINCETON ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
Minutes of Regular Meeting of June 22, 2016– 7:30 pm
Meeting Room A, Witherspoon Hall
400 Witherspoon Street, Princeton, NJ 08540

I. Opening Statement

Adequate notice of this meeting as required by Sections 3d and 4a of the Open Public Meetings Act has been provided and filed with the municipal Clerk.

II. Fichtenbaum opened the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Present were: Fichtenbaum, Walker, Zemble, Glovier, Marcus-Levine, Sacks, DiFerdinando, Birge, TechCzarny, Symington and Lempert

Absent were:

III. Approval of Agenda:

A motion was made and seconded and the Commission voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

IV. Minutes:

- a) The minutes for May and June were deferred until the July meeting.

V. Public Comment: Ronald Nielson of Humbert Street stressed the need for emergency water access at the top of Spring Street that can be normally operated in the case of an extended power outage. Fichtenbaum advised that there is an Emergency Preparedness Commission and she thought it best that he bring this issue to that group. Mr. Nielson stated that this is something that should be available at all times and not just in an emergency. Fichtenbaum stated that she would read through his report and get back to him, but she feels this is something that should be heard by the Emergency Preparedness Commission.

VI. Discussion/Decisions:

- a) **Council Update:** Lempert stated that the town has begun working on a Climate Action Plan. She said the Planning Department is working on this and it will come back to Council to ensure the priorities are correct and she will make sure the PEC weighs in on it. She said work continues on the landfill project; the town is looking for solar panel locations; there was a ribbon cutting ceremony for the newly designed Free-B; the bike Master Plan is coming along and the next chapter will include the bike parking; She discussed the Nassau Street Streetscape event that was held at the Garden Theatre. She discussed the tree well planting options, bike corral options, location of bench options, recycling and trash container options, etc. Fichtenbaum stated that vegetation and storm water controls are very

important and the consultant should discuss all the materials that will be considered. Lempert explained that their presentation at the Garden Theatre was very aesthetic. Lempert noted that there will be a presentation on the Emerald Ash Bore problem in Princeton and the possible treatments for it. She noted that this is a Shade Tree Commission issue but the PEC can send someone to the meeting. Fichtenbaum said the PEC should weigh in on this, perhaps as it becomes part of the Climate Action Plan. Lempert stated that the Neighborhood Character Rezoning group will conduct some focus groups with various Boards and Commissions for its input. She said the kickoff meeting for this group will be in September and they will also have a website for folks to view the information and give input. Fichtenbaum asked Lempert what was happening with the Construction/Demolition Waste ordinance. Lempert said she will check into it and get back to the Commission.

- b) **Green Development Checklist:** Fichtenbaum said she setup a spreadsheet and described how it would work with the Commission. She noted that Deb was having some personal issues and would not be able to complete the project as anticipated. She said she would like to know if anyone was willing to help her with the project. She said she would send the information out to everyone and hopefully the Application Review Subcommittee would be willing to help.
- c) **EV Ordinance:** Symington said she is trying to set up a meeting with Ilene in Planning to discuss what other towns in New Jersey have enacted an ordinance like this. Lempert noted that ZARC wants to wait on more information before recommending an ordinance.
- d) **Carnegie Lake Update:** Glovier stated that they are trying to set up a meeting with Princeton University – this issue is still being pursued.
- e) **ANJEC Grant:** Glovier stated that the PEC has received the first installment of the grant money. She said a press release was sent out but she will send out another press release with a picture. She also noted that if anyone would like to volunteer to help with this project they can contact Clark Lennon.
- f) **Communication/Website:** Fichtenbaum stated that Birge put together a whole website for the PEC and she is thrilled with it. She noted that whatever content is put on this site can migrate over to the new website when the town rolls it out. She stated that the PEC needs to come up with ideas and content for the website so it can be discussed and uploaded to the site. Sacks offered to organize the ideas.

VII. Liasion Reports:

- a) **Board of Health:** DiFerdinando stated that the BOH will be having a joint meeting with Princeton Future to discuss any linkages they have together. Sacks stated that she attended the Sustainable Princeton Annual Summit and she sent some information to the BOH on areas that the BOH and PEC could partner on.
- b) **Sustainable Princeton:** Symington stated that she attended the Sustainable Jersey Summit as well and it was announced that they will be rolling out Gold standards in the near future. She noted that they have been working on the ev

chargers and have someone who will donate all of the equipment. She said after the grant that they were awarded – they are still \$7,000.00 short. She said they are working on coming up with the money that is still needed. She said she attended the municipal Green Team Meeting and the topic of discussion was the action items needed for re-certification. She said the recycling brochure is almost complete, she is still working on it. She discussed the “tiny home on wheels” that was in Princeton. Sacks said that the tiny home is actually a lab for sustainability. She said it is amazing to see what sustainable products are available and how much energy is lost in the average home.

- c) **Misc:** Fichtenbaum said she is looking for a replacement for Spindel on the Commission, if anyone knows someone who is interested to please let her know. She reminded everyone that there will not be a meeting in August, but they will be meeting in July. She said she would like to wrap up the following items in July or bring them close to being closed; Green Development Checklist Project; EV Ordinance; Bike Master Plan and Construction/Demo Waste ordinance discussion. Marcus-Levine noted that the PEC does not get to review minor site plans. She was specifically concerned about the Brandon Real Estate application. She said she thinks it would be helpful for the PEC to review all applications. Fichtenbaum said she will check with Planning so everyone is clear on the process.

VIII. Adjourn: A motion was made and seconded and the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra Mercantini, Secretary

Date Approved: July 27, 2016