

OCEAN CITY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
Minutes – Tuesday, September 13 , 2022

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

Roll Call – The following members were present:

| Name | Title | Present/Absent | Name | Title | Present/Absent |
|--------------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Richard Bernardini | Chairperson | Present | Elizabeth Lehman | Commissioner | Present |
| Marnie Niederhofer | Commissioner | Present | James Edwards | Commissioner | Absent |
| Doug Blackman | Alternate # 1 | Present | John Aitken | Commissioner | Present |
| | Alternate # 2 | Absent | Catherine Cipolla | Commissioner | Absent |
| Bradford Jungles | Commissioner | Absent | Jessica Fenton | City Liaison | Absent |
| Christopher Sardy | Student Liaison | Present | Madeline Heng | Student Liaison | Present |

Open Public Meetings Announcement – Adequate notice of this meeting was given pursuant to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

Approval of Minutes – Motion to approve the minutes for the meeting on August 9, 2022 was made by Betsy Lehman and seconded by Marnie Neiderhofer. Those eligible to vote adopted it unanimously.

Public Comments

- The following attended the meeting:
 - Roseanne Serowatka - presented and provided a statement in opposition to wind farms
 - Patti Melfi and Maryanne Heydinger - engaged in a general Q&A on wind farms

Pending Business

- Submitted Plan Review
 - 3 CAFRA/NJDEP notices, 0 Treatment Works, 8 Zoning/Planning Board submissions were reviewed.
- Student Environmental Association
 - Upweller activity started, SEA has had no activity with it
 - Attended Green Fair and assisted with crafts and seed packets
 - Fallen Soldier run 9/22
 - New advisor contact info will be forwarded
 - Presentation to St. Damien’s CCD class on recycling and native seeds 10/2
- ANJEC
 - Climate Change mini-course 9/15, 10/2, 10/11
- Discussion of future Commission activity

- Lectures
 - Fall '22
 - Wetlands Protection- Shooter Island (ATC Engineers)
 - 11/10/22 live lecture and Zoom in City Council Chambers
 - Spring '2
 - Gardening and Composting, speaker research in progress
 - Future Topics
 - Plastics
 - Osprey habitat
 - Passive rainwater control, such as bioswales
 - Army Corps of Engineer Flood Barrier
- Monarch Waystations
 - Potential locations
 - Playgrounds
 - Airport areas
 - Wildlife Refuge
 - 51st Street
 - E. Seaspray Rd along path to beach
 - Potential Partners
 - The Shores, met 8/10, install spring '23
 - Certified Wildlife Habitat - C. Cipolla to investigate
- Storm Inlet warning graphic for outflow
- Sign to deter feeding Fox off the boardwalk
- Informational flyers/fact sheets
- Grants
 - ANJEC Stewardship grant application was approved for the Butterfly Garden
 - All volunteer hours to be reported to Rick Bernardini
 - Bird Guides-Marnie Neiderhofer
 - Sustainable Jersey
 - Public Beach Access
- Orsted Ocean Wind wind farm
 - NJ BPU is holding a Green Acres public hearing on line 9/29 at 9:00 am and 5:30 pm
 - Orsted is holding a Green Acres public hearing at The Flanders on 10/3 at 6:00 pm
 - J. Aitken presented a chart of visibility of WTG's from the Music Pier
- City is investigating OCEC logo shirts for members to wear at events.
- City Green Fair August 26 at the Music Pier
 - reduced attendance of exhibitors and visitors was noted from previous events
- Butterfly Garden Activities
 - Progress report to ANJEC due by October 31
- B. Lehman to investigate Reusable Bag collection for food banks and other sources coordinated with OCFPL

New Business

- 2023 Family Fun Day 2/18/23 at the Music Pier
 - program and exhibitors to be developed

- Rutgers is presenting a “Weathering the Storm” series, info distributed
- D. Moore provided the Commission via email with a letter to the City regarding the termination of organic lawn treatments.
- Fall Beach Sweep 10/22 9:00-12:00, North Street beach
- Commissioner term expirations were reviewed.
- ocnj.us Commission page for OCEC has deleted all legacy fact sheets and data, to be investigated
- OCEC Annual Report was adopted unanimously after a motion by Doug Blackman.
 - J. Aitken will present to Council on 9/22/22.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM. Motions to adjourn were made by Betsy Lehman and seconded by Doug Blackman.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 11, 2022, at 6:30 PM, in person at the Cape May County Howard S. Stainton Senior Center, 1735 Simpson Avenue.