

OCEAN CITY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
Minutes – Tuesday, February 13, 2024

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
Caitlin Quirk	Commissioner	Present	John Aitken	Commissioner	Absent
Jessica Fenton	City Liaison	Absent	Catherine Cipolla	Commissioner	Absent
Doug Blackman	Alternate #1	Present	Harley Cummins	Alternate # 2	Absent
Delaney Brogan	Student Liaison	Absent	Josh Heng	Student Liaison	Present
David Heap	Student Liaison	Absent			

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 January 16, 2024 was made by Doug Blackman and seconded by Betsy Lehman. Those eligible to vote adopted it unanimously.

Public Comments

- Attendees- none

Pending Business

- Submitted Plan Review
 - 2 CAFRA/NJDEP notices, 0 Treatment Works, 3 Zoning/Planning Board submissions were reviewed.
- Student Environmental Association
 - Family Fun Day 2/17/24
- ANJEC
 - 2024 Open Space Grant available, Commissioners to recommend project, due 4/26/24
- Discussion of future Commission activity
 - Lectures
 - March 26, 2024 Sustainable Business Practices -Caitlin Quirk
 - Future Topics
 - TBD
 - Storm Inlet warning markers
 - Commissioners are willing to volunteer for more area installations.
- Monarch Waystations

- The Shores
 - Garden dedication to be scheduled in spring '24
- Commissioners to identify potential locations for gardens
 - investigate Bayside Center garden expansion
 - Admin advises project be deferred due to pending plans for Bayside Center replacement scope
- Ocean Wind 1 & 2
 - Orsted has ceased operations on the Ocean Wind 1 and 2 projects. Orsted retains the rights of the lease areas.
- Eco-Recreation
 - Final drafts on paddle sports, biking, birding, and fishing are completed.
 - Met with Admin January 23
 - Information presented, Admin expressed support, execution to be determined
- Spring beach plum planting Beach Rd at Gardens Rd.
 - to be scheduled
- 2024 Family Environmental Fun Day - Commission is scheduled at the high school cafeteria on 2/17/24.
 - Table layout, activities, assignments and attendees were reviewed
- Crook Horn Creek Nature Trail and Storm Resilience
 - Some members of the Commission attended an information session on Saturday, 12/9/23. A general discussion of the project was held, questions were forwarded to oceancityflooding@actengineers.com
 - no response to date
- Atlantic-Cape May Hub Roundtable 2/20/24, 4 topics in an hour meant to highlight key information for further action.
- A discussion on construction practices for cutting plastic lumber, such as Trex and Azak. Information was forwarded to the Administration for Construction Official attention based on a Margate initiative.

New Business

- D. Moore forwarded information for a webinar on Vinyl Chloride on 2/20/24
- C. Quirk commented that the EV charging station on 9th Street would be an ideal location for eco information and some landscaping.
- M. Niederhofer advised that she has earned the qualification as a Certified Environmental Restoration Practitioner.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:55 PM. Motions to adjourn were made by Marnie Niederhofer and seconded by Caitlin Quirk.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at 6:30 PM, in person at the Cape May County Howard S. Stainton Senior Center, 1735 Simpson Avenue.