

OCEAN CITY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
Minutes – Tuesday, April 8, 2025

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 | Absent | James Edwards | Commissioner | Present |
| Caitlin Quirk | Commissioner | Absent | John Aitken | Commissioner | Present |
| Jessica Fenton | City Liaison | Present | Doug Blackman | Commissioner | Absent |
| Cyndy Legowski | Alternate #1 | Present | Harley Cummins | Alternate # 2 | Absent |
| Arden Hazlett | Student Liaison | Absent | Joseph Heng | Student Liaison | Present |
| | | | Anika Deshpande | 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 March 11, 2025 was made by James Edward and seconded by Cyndy Legowski. Those eligible to vote adopted it unanimously.

Public Comments

- Attendees:
 - Donna Moore - concerns about Crook Horn Creek project and terrapin routes, and pollinator gardens and landscaping chemical concerns
 - 4/5/25 Public presentation plans will be forwarded for review
 - Loretta Panuto - concerns about Crook Horn Creek project and terrapin routes

Pending Business

1. Submitted Plan Review
 - a. 8 CAFRA/NJDEP notices, 1 Treatment Works, 8 Zoning/Planning Board submissions were reviewed. No adverse comments.
2. Student Environmental Association
 - a. Ocean City High School
 - i. Purple Cup Project: In the process of getting a pilot program in place in the high school for morning coffee.
 1. SEA is seeking grants/funds for reusable cup purchase
 - ii. Composting - Primary School gardens will incorporate
 - iii. Seed Library – Seed Library Box was created by the High School Wood Shop Teacher and currently in place in the high school library.
 - iv. SEA will assist with Upper Twp. Strawberry Festival
 - b. Mainland High School
 - i. Construction debris control in Linwood – Anika – Absent no discussion.
3. ANJEC
 - a. Food Waste Recycling 4/29/25 @ noon
4. Monarch Waystation
 - a. Community Waystations
 - i. A smaller seed library is being prepared for the library at the Research Desk.
 1. An email signup sheet is present to create a “Trail of Gardens” within the City.
 - a. B. Lehman will prepare a letter for distribution to email enrollees to list their gardens at pollinator-pathway.org
 - b. North End Veterans Park
 - i. Collaboration with the OC Garden Civic Assoc., OC Garden Club and OCEC will be investigated.
 1. This tract was confirmed as a City property. Plan to be developed for City review.
 2. A meeting was held on 3/29 at the site to review proposed plan
 - c. The Bayside Center garden was cleaned by others. Stakes and baskets were installed to control larger plant growth.
5. Lectures/Education Program
 - i. Emergency Preparedness in the fall, including how to protect your vehicle.
6. Storm Inlet warning markers
 - i. Public Works issued a plan and medallions for installation
 1. Installation complete, Public Works was advised
7. Eagle Scout Service Project-Wilson Stauffer
 - a. Wilson is working directly with the Tabernacle, Shores and Mayor's Aide.
8. Food Waste/ Composting
 - a. Discussions in progress
9. Beach Sweep April 12
10. Cape May County Earth Day Celebration, April 26, 2025 at the Cape May County Zoo with a focus on “Seas the Moment” Protect our Oceans.

- a. OCEC will attend, Cyndy Legowski will present our material decomposition in the ocean info and existing OC EcoRecreation brochure.

New Business

1. NJ Sustainability Summit 5/9/25 R. Bernardini, B. Lehman and C. Quirk to attend.
2. R. Bernardini encouraged members to consider attending the webcasts for the Rutgers Earth Day Every Day series
3. Arbor Day 4/25/25, event to be confirmed
4. J. Fenton, Zoning Officer, presented an overview of the Zoning and Planning Boards processes for Variances.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM. Motions to adjourn were made by Cyndy Legowski and seconded by Betsy Lehman. Those eligible to vote adopted it unanimously.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 13, 2025, at 6:30 PM, in person at the Cape May County Howard S. Stainton Senior Center, Room S107 Senior Lounge/Card Room, 1735 Simpson Avenue.