

OCEAN CITY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
Minutes – Tuesday, June 10, 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	Present	James Edwards	Commissioner	Present
Caitlin Quirk	Commissioner	Absent	John Aitken	Commissioner	Absent
Jessica Fenton	City Liaison	Absent	Doug Blackman	Commissioner	Present
Cyndy Legowski	Alternate #1	Absent	Harley Cummins	Alternate # 2	Present
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 May 13, 2025 was made by Jim Edwards and seconded by Betsy Lehman. Those eligible to vote adopted it unanimously.

Public Comments

- Attendees:
 - Jason Walsh - Stockton University student
 - Ralph Cooper - promoting attendance for the 6/25/25 A-C HUB Electrification and the Climate Summit at the Cape May Science Center 6/20-22/25.

Pending Business

1. Submitted Plan Review
 - a. 4 CAFRA/NJDEP notices, 0 Treatment Works, 1 Zoning/Planning Board submissions were reviewed. No adverse comments.
2. Student Environmental Association
 - a. Ocean City High School
 - i. Red 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 - High School courtyards may be available
 - iii. Seed Library – Seed Library Box was created by the High School Wood Shop Teacher and currently in place in the high school library.
 1. seed refills done
 - b. Mainland High School
 - i. Construction debris control in Linwood – Anika – Absent no discussion.
3. ANJEC
 - a. Open Space Grant application submitted for North End Veterans Park garden
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 prepared 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 was developed for City review and accepted.
 2. Applied for ANJEC Open Space Grant
 - c. The Bayside Center garden needs staking of sunflowers.
5. Lectures/Education Program
 - i. Emergency Preparedness on October 7, 2025.
6. Eagle Scout Service Project-Wilson Stauffer
 - a. Wilson is working directly with the Tabernacle, Shores and Mayor's Aide.
 - i. Received approval for all sites, assembling for installation
7. Food Waste/ Composting
 - a. Discussions in progress
8. NJ Sustainability Summit 5/9/25 R. Bernardini, B. Lehman and C. Quirk attended.
 - a. Halloween costume recycling/swap program to be investigated with the library.

New Business

1. H. Cummins attended the 4th Ward meeting on 5/17/25, he made recommendations for native plantings and pollinator garden inclusion for the 34th Street Gateway improvements.
2. A-C Hub of Sustainable Jersey is holding a lecture on Electrification on 6/25/25 at the Senior Center. Speakers include the Rate Payer Advocate of the NJ BPU, Comfort Partners, Community Solar, Atlantic City Electric, South Jersey Gas and others.
3. ACT Engineers advised the Upweller will be stocked shortly and is looking for support for maintenance. Notice will be sent upon date confirmation.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM. Motions to adjourn were made by Marnie Niederhofer and seconded by Doug Blackman. Those eligible to vote adopted it unanimously.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 8, 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.