

HOLMDEL ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes – Regular Meeting Via Zoom Webinar
Wednesday, May 12, 2021– 7:30 p.m.

Bill Kastning called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. and Loretta Coscia read the following OPENING STATEMENT: “I hereby announce, pursuant to Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided on January 8, 2021 to the Asbury Park Press and the Two River Times. Notice has also been posted in the entrance of Town Hall, filed in the Clerk’s Office, and posted on the Township’s website, www.holmdeltownship.com, all pursuant to Section 13 of the Open Public Meetings Act.”

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence to Honor Military and Police Who Have Been Wounded or Killed in Action

Roll Call

Present: Ralph Blumenthal
 Bill Kastning, *Chairperson*
 Randy Rauscher
 Karen Strickland, *Vice Chair*
 Chris Yonclas
 Janet Jackel, *Alternate 1*
 John Galasso, *Alternate 2*

Absent: Mike Nikolis
 Anthony Salerno

Environmental Commission Business

- Draft Minutes – April 14 Minutes approved (RB/KS)
- Trails – Scout Projects/Trails – Karen prepared a list of trails in town (shared screen). Ralph said Bayonet Farm and Cross Farm have multiple trails. Other parks listed were Ackerson, Mahoras Greenway, Allocco, Neil Waackaack, Ramanessin Greenway, Labbe Park, DePalma, F&F Nurseries, Pesce property (former Korean Church), and a property on the east side of Route 34 owned by the county. The Willow Brook area should be a wish list item. Karen will send out the list to commission members. She plans on visiting the various trails and making notes to discuss with the commission who is responsible for maintaining a trail list. Karen said she met with two new scouts who want to do something for Bayonet Farm. One is building a kiosk for the Harding House and the other wants to build and donate picnic tables. The third scout is building a boardwalk which should be complete soon.
- Subsurface Sewage Disposal System Management/Septic Management – Randy took a course offered by ANJEC. The presentation was on maintenance of sewer systems and the management by municipalities of individual homeowner systems. Septic systems are considered mini sewage treatment plants each homeowner is responsible for maintaining based on periodic inspections, which require a renewed permit every three years. If the septic system does not pass, the homeowner does not get the permit. Ralph brought up that the township disbanded their Board of Health and handed over

responsibility to the county a number of years ago. Ralph stated that the HEC had sent an email to Cherron last year to inquire as to what the county is doing to educate residents of proper maintenance of septic systems. We have not received a response. Ralph suggested that Randy follow up with Cherron or Allison. The county does not do any inspections. John said most at stake would be NJ American Water, and they do not seem to have any interest. The county Board of Health also regulates the wells.

Other Business

There was discussion regarding a webinar series posted on LinkedIn on bees and insects. Chris suggested we get more involved. Bill asked if the HEC should consider going to this webinar series, or, learning more about it and offering it to residents. Karen said she attended an ANJEC seminar on social media for environmental commissions. They recommend that environmental commissions get a Facebook page to raise awareness and for advertising purposes. Brian O'Malley (meeting host) advised that he and Allison McLeod in Administration maintain webpages for the township. Bill asked how we could get a webpage for the Environmental Commission. Brian said he would check with Cherron. Brian said there are 1600 followers on Facebook. Karen found an HEC Facebook page with the last post from March of 2021. Brian will look into it further and advise Loretta.

Planning Board

- **Barclay Square at Holmdel, Preliminary/Final Site Plan #2020-1, Block 52, Lots 17 & 18** Applicant proposes the construction of a one, three-story apartment building consisting of 60 apartment housing units with associated parking, stormwater management measures and utility facilities. The site will provide 116 parking spaces, and water and sanitary for the building shall connect to the existing public facilities. The site is located on Palmer Avenue between Route 35 and Middle Rd and Main St in Holmdel Township. Though the total site contains 6.74 acres, the total disturbance from the development is 2.32 acres. *Revised Plans – Continued public hearing May 18*

Ralph said he reviewed the revised plans. The site consists of two lots, 17 and 18. There was an old approval for an office building on lot 17, and a result of the approval (not perfected) was a conservation easement approved and recorded on the deed. Last year, the HEC sent a letter to the Planning Board with a similar conservation easement to be placed on lot 18, but it is not shown on the revised plans. It has to be monumented and does not show monuments on lot 18. Ralph prepared a new letter with the recommendation for the Planning Board and forwarded to Bill for review. Ralph made a motion to send the letter. Motion seconded by Randy and carried by voice vote.

Ralph left the meeting at 8:35 p.m. (conflict with Zoning Board matters)

Zoning Board of Adjustment

- **2 Cardinal Road, Richard DeHanes & Donna DePinto DeHanes, ZB Variance #450 Block 21, Lot 3.21 – R40A Zone** Applicant seeks variance relief of 15' for the rear setback of 25' for installation of a 16' X 32' in ground pool, surrounding patio and 200 sq. foot pool/pump house. Seeking variance relief of 25' from side setback where 75' is required as per ordinance (corner lot). *Public Hearing scheduled for 5/19/21*

No HEC comments

1 Crocus Drive, Christie & Jeffrey Sargent, ZB Variance #449, Block 5, Lot 50.43 Applicant seeks variance relief for side yard set-back for installation of a built in pool. *Public Hearing scheduled for 5/19/21*

No HEC comments

Adjournment

There being no further business at 8:45 p.m. **motion** to adjourn by Chris seconded by Karen and carried by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Loretta Coscia
HEC Secretary

Proceedings Recorded