

Pennington Borough Environmental Commission  
Minutes for March 28, 7:30 pm  
Zoom Virtual

*Notetaker: Joann Held*

Attendees: Joann Held, Jim Fuger, Andrew Jackson, Kieran John, Daniel Rubenstein

1. Public comment-none
2. Review of past minutes- February 2023  
Motion to approve by Dan Rubenstein, Second by Jim Fuger.
3. Administrative Items
  - a) Gregg Rankin is moving and therefore resigned from the Environmental Commission. Kieran John should move from alternate to full member.
  - b) ANJEC Open Space Grant Opportunity – This grant may be a good fit for acquiring native plants for the enclosure at the Arboretum. Nancy Fishman will prepare an application with assistance from Dan Rubenstein.
4. Planning/Zoning Board Report (Andy Jackson)  
The Planning/Zoning Board met on March 8. Of particular interest is a request to subdivide 51 Eglantine Ave, a single property that currently has two houses. No Vote was taken.  
Also at that meeting, the Master Plan Re-examination Report was approved to send to Borough Council for Review.
5. Pennington Arboretum (Joann Held)  
The Ad Hoc Arboretum committee met recently. The next step is to plan for and install fencing around one of the proposed enclosure areas. The Open Space Committee also had a brief discussion of the fencing at their last meeting.
6. Carbon Neutral Workgroup: No report. Planning to meet in the next 2 weeks.
7. Green Team and Sustainable Jersey Update (Joann Held)

The Green Team has decided to focus on Composting of Organic Waste this year. The first effort will be to promote composting in two ways: Do-It-Yourself & local subscription services. The next step would be to support a pilot program (perhaps a drop off location) to assess community interest. If successful, this could lead to Municipally sponsored collection of organic waste. Dan Rubenstein reported that state grants might be available for some of these actions. He will share notes from a recent ANJEC program on the topic.

8. Pennington Day: The Environmental Commission plans to participate in Pennington Day, with a focus on 4 topics. Four EC members offered to take the lead on the individual topics. Joann Held is looking into having a new banner in time for the event.

TOPICS (lead): Arboretum (Jim Fuger)

Organic Waste (Dan Rubenstein)

ERI (Andy Jackson)

Carbon Footprint/ANJEC Game Wheel (Kieran John)

9. New Business

Two topics were suggested for future discussion:

- a) Developing a Vision Statement for the EC
- b) Inviting teens to join the EC (as Junior Members)

10. Next Meeting – April 17, 7:30pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:59pm

Submitted by: Joann Held