



Bernards Township Environmental Commission



BERNARDS TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES – October 26, 2020 – 7pm

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Ann Parsekian called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm via Zoom Conference call in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act of 1975.

FLAG SALUTE

All those assembled saluted the flag.

ROLL CALL

Present: Debra DeWitt, Nancy Cook, John Crane, Joan Harris, James LaMaire, Ann Parsekian, Alice Smyk, Jane Conklin (7:05pm), **Mahwish Mustafa (7:44 pm)**

Absent: None

Also Present: Kaitlin Cartoccio – Recording Secretary, Todd Edelstein - Resident

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion to approve the September 28, 2020 minutes made by Debra DeWitt, seconded by Joan Harris. Nancy Cook abstained. All in favor, motion carried.

REPORTS & MISCELLANEUS CORRESPONDENCE

None

NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Bernards Plaza Associates-PB 20-003-403 King George Road** – Prelim/Final Site Plan Approval for active and passive recreation amenities.

John Crane recused himself at 7:06 pm. There was discussion surrounding the Township walking trails. Comments to be prepared regarding regular inspection and maintenance, public access and accommodations for public parking and restrooms.

Motion by Nancy Cook, seconded by Jane Conklin.

All in favor, motion carried.

- b. **Porcelli-ZB 20-019-19 Southard Place**– Rear setback variance to add 2 car garage.

Comments to be prepared based on Master Comment #4 with some modification. The Commission would ask the Board to remind the applicants that they are virtually at capacity on lot coverage and that any future additions such as patios, sheds, pools or any other impervious surface coverage items would put them over the limit. The Commission suggests they discuss this with the applicant and perhaps the applicant may want to consider reducing the amount of impervious surface coverage.



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Motion by Alice Smyk, seconded by Debra DeWitt .

All in favor, motion carried.

- c. **Clark-ZB 20-020-35 Old Farm Road** – Relief from setback requirements related to zone 2 stream buffer.

Discussion surrounding mailing out a flyer encouraging residents to check their property to see if they have a buffer. Comments to be prepared asking for assurance of a double row of silt fencing.

Motion by Debra DeWitt, seconded by John Crane.

All in favor, motion carried.

COMMENTS BY MEMBERS

Discussion surrounding communication with the public. Ideas including putting together communications to the public like paragraphs or flyers on different topics the public would be interested in or a one page flyer about the holidays and how to recycle and reuse materials.

Ann Parsekian discussed updating the Master Comments. The Board of Adjustment Annual Report should be reviewed by the Environmental Commission and every application should be analyzed and recommendations made. An estimated 40% applications had lot coverage requests. There was also discussion about a Master plan review and the Planning Board videos all being posted on the website. The Planning Board Secretary could forward future agendas regarding any environmental concerns

Mahwish Mustafa started a conversation about environmental holiday fun including pumpkin smashing day for Halloween.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 8:36pm by Nancy Cook, seconded by Debra DeWitt. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Kaitlin Cartoccio, Meeting Secretary



Bernards Township Environmental Commission

TO: Zoning Board Chairperson and Members

FROM: Ann Parsekian, Chairperson
Bernards Township Environmental Commission

DATE: October 27, 2020

RE: Applications review

The Environmental Commission reviewed these applications at their October 26, 2020 meeting and forwards the following comments.

Porcelli, ZB 20-019

The Environmental Commission has reviewed this application and offers the following comments:

The EC would ask the Board to remind the Applicant that they are at capacity on lot coverage and that any future additions such as patios, sheds, pools or any other impervious surface coverage items would put them over the limit. The Commission suggests this be discussed with the Applicant and perhaps the applicant may want to consider reducing the amount of impervious surface coverage.

Clarke, ZB 20-020

The Environmental Commission has reviewed this application and offers the following comment:

The EC recommends that two rows of silt fence be used due to the proximity of the project to the small stream.



Bernards Township Environmental Commission

TO: Planning Board Chairperson and Members

FROM: Ann Parsekian, Chairperson
Bernards Township Environmental Commission

DATE: October 27, 2020

RE: **Bernards Plaza Associates**
PB 20-003
403 King George Rd
Block 8501, L39, 43, 44

The Environmental Commission reviewed this application at their October 26, 2020 meeting and submits the following comments:

The EC notes the construction of a proposed mulch path and recommends that it be inspected and maintained on a regular basis to assure the depth of the mulch remains sufficient for proper performance of the path. The EC notes the plan to connect the path to existing Bernards Township trails, and requests assurances from the Applicant that the proposed mulch path will be accessible to the public. In connection with public access to the path, the EC recommends discussion with the Applicant concerning accessible public parking and restrooms.

Cc: David Schley, Township Planner
Cyndi Kiefer, Secretary; for distribution to PB members And Attorney to the applicant