



Bernards Township Environmental Commission



BERNARDS TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES-APRIL 8, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Ann Parsekian called the meeting to order at 7:01PM in the Owen Conference Room of the Bernards Township Municipal Building, 1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act of 1975.

FLAG SALUTE

All those assembled saluted the flag.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Alice Smyk, James LaMaire, Ann Parsekian, Michael Kelly, John Crane and Debra DeWitt

Absent: Joan Harris, Mahwish Mustafa, and John Engdahl

Also Present:

Ridge High School Students: Shannon Tam, Natalie Barret, Caleb Li, Alyssa Fulmer, and Geronimo Guadarrama

Faris Jebara

Todd Edelstein

Vanessa Freire, Meeting Secretary

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes by Michael Kelly second by Alice Smyk.

Roll Call: Alice Smyk – Yes, Ann Parsekian – Yes, John Crane – No, James LaMaire – Yes, Michael Kelly – Yes

Minutes of March 11, 2019 approved.

Motion carried.

REPORTS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Development Applications**
 - a) **Applications**
 - i. **YGLESIAS/DECOSTA** – ZB-19-004-3137 Valley Rd.-B 8802; L19 – rear yard setback; pool location; relief max coverage
Motion by John Crane second by Debra DeWitt to have comments prepared based on: opposing the increase in lot coverage and suggesting methods to recharge/dry well.



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Roll Call: Alice Smyk – Yes, Ann Parsekian – Yes, John Crane – Yes, James LaMaire – Yes, Michael Kelly – Yes, Debra DeWitt –Yes
All in favor; motion carried.

See attachment— YGLESIAS/DECOSTA

ii. VOHDEN – ZB-19-006 – 7 Evergreen Place-B1403; L7 – side yard construct 2 car garage

Comment:

No environmental concerns.

Motion by John Crane second by Debra DeWitt to approve comment.

Roll Call: Alice Smyk – Yes, Ann Parsekian – Yes, John Crane – Yes, James LaMaire – Yes, Michael Kelly – Yes, Debra DeWitt –Yes
All in favor; motion carried.

iii. HEINZE – ZB-19-007-100 Emerald Valley Lane-B11401; L32-lot coverage 2 story addition

Motion by Debra DeWitt second by John Crane to have comments prepared based on: opposing the increase in lot coverage and suggesting methods to recharge.

Roll Call: Alice Smyk – Yes, Ann Parsekian – Yes, John Crane – Yes, James LaMaire – Yes, Michael Kelly – Yes, Debra DeWitt –Yes
All in favor; motion carried.

See attachment— HEINZE

iv. BENTLEY – ZB-19-009-13 Woodstone Rd B2903; L13 – replace front porch; renovate property

Motion by Alice Smyk second by Michael Kelly to prepare comments based on the following recommendations: suggesting methods to recharge and pool water discharge management.

Roll Call: Alice Smyk – Yes, Ann Parsekian – Yes, John Crane – Yes, James LaMaire – Yes, Michael Kelly – Yes, Debra DeWitt –Yes
All in favor; motion carried.

See attachment— BENTLEY

PUBLIC COMMENT

Faris Jebara is on the Vision 2020/Planning for the Future Task Force and he inquired about data collection information for policy tracking on a consumer/resident-based level, i.e. tracking businesses that are green. Faris stated he will volunteer and research to try to obtain recycling rates within Somerset County businesses.

COMMENTS BY MEMBERS

John Crane stated he does not agree with the prepared comments for the **Richter Application-ZB-19-005-63** from the meeting minutes of March 11, 2019.



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Vice Chairperson Michael Kelly is resigning from the Environmental Commission; he has been a member since 2013.

Ann Parsekian discussed with the EC members about reaching out to the community to have another resident of the community join the EC. Ann also discussed voting for another Vice Chairperson during the EC June meeting.

Ann Parsekian stated she has sent a request for EC members to visit the Millington Quarry Inc. and is waiting a for a response.

ADJOURMENT

Motion by James LaMaire second by Debra DeWitt to adjourn the meeting at 8:51PM.

All in favor; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Vanessa Freire, Meeting Secretary



Bernards Township Environmental Commission

TO: Zoning Board Chairperson and Members

FROM: Ann Parsekian, Chairperson
Bernards Township Environmental Commission

DATE: April 25, 2019

RE: **YGLESIAS-DECOSTA-ZB-19-004**

Yglesias/DeCosta ZB19-004

The Environmental Commission reviewed the above noted application at their April 9, 2019 meeting and forwards the following comments.

The Commission sees storm water management and ground water quality as major environmental issues in our community. The Commission would like to note that increases in impervious surface lead to increased storm water runoff, and reduced ground water recharge. As our community and the state continue to grow, it is becoming more critical than ever to employ greater storm water management Best Management Practices techniques to mitigate the damage caused by impervious surface.

The Commission recommends that no additional impervious area above the allowable limit be created on a site. The Commission notes that the overage that is the subject of this application exists presently and evidently dates to an earlier project. The Commission is aware that the applicant's current proposal includes a reduction of 421 sf from the prior application to partially offset the existing overage. Should the Board approve a plan with lot coverage over that permitted by code, the Commission recommends considering construction of a dry well or other storm water control feature for the proposed pool house roof leaders.

Cc: David Schley, Township Planner
Cyndi Kiefer, Secretary; for distribution to BOA members
fzelley@baskingridgelaw.com ; Esq., Attorney to applicant



Bernards Township Environmental Commission

TO: Zoning Board Chairperson and Members

FROM: Ann Parsekian, Chairperson
Bernards Township Environmental Commission

DATE: April 25, 2019

RE: **VOHDEN-ZB-19-006**

The Environmental Commission reviewed the above noted application at their April 9, 2019 meeting, and has no environmental concerns at this time.

Cc: David Schley, Township Planner
Cyndi Kiefer, Secretary; for distribution to BOA members
Rob.vohden@gmail.com; Applicant



Bernards Township Environmental Commission

TO: Zoning Board Chairperson and Members

FROM: Ann Parsekian, Chairperson
Bernards Township Environmental Commission

DATE: April 25, 2019

RE: **HEINZE-ZB-19-007**

The Environmental Commission reviewed the above noted application at their April 9, 2019 meeting and forwards the following comments.

The Commission sees storm water management and ground water quality as major environmental issues in our community. The Commission would like to note that increases in impervious surface lead to increased storm water runoff, and reduced ground water recharge. As our community and the state continue to grow, it is becoming more critical than ever to employ greater storm water management Best Management Practices techniques to mitigate the damage caused by impervious surface.

The Commission recommends that no additional impervious area above the allowable limit be created on a site. Should the Board approve a plan with lot coverage over that permitted by code, the Commission recommends that leaders from the new roof area be directed to a dry well.

Cc: David Schley, Township Planner
Cyndi Kiefer, Secretary; for distribution to BOA members
bradleyheinze@gmail.com; Applicant



Bernards Township Environmental Commission

TO: Zoning Board Chairperson and Members

FROM: Ann Parsekian, Chairperson
Bernards Township Environmental Commission

DATE: April 25, 2019

RE: **BENTLEY- ZB-19-009**

The Environmental Commission reviewed the above noted application at their April 9, 2019 meeting and forwards the following comments.

The Commission sees storm water management and ground water quality as major environmental issues in our community. The Commission would like to note that increases in impervious surface lead to increased storm water runoff, and reduced ground water recharge. As our community and the state continue to grow, it is becoming more critical than ever to employ greater storm water management Best Management Practices techniques to mitigate the damage caused by impervious surface.

The Commission recommends that no additional impervious area above the allowable limit be created on a site. The Commission is aware that the existing lot coverage of 22.37% exceeds the increased coverage of 19.05% approved October 3, 2007, and that the exceedance predates the present owners. The applicant proposes a project that will reduce coverage to 20.94%. Several drain outlets are noted on the drawings, and testimony should be required to verify what they tie in to and whether they provide sufficient storm water control should the Board approve a plan with lot coverage over that permitted by prior approval.

Cc: David Schley, Township Planner
Cyndi Kiefer, Secretary; for distribution to BOA members
gd@dallessandrolaw.com; Esq., Attorney to applicant