



## ***Bernards Township Environmental Commission***



### **BERNARDS TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES- July 8, 2019**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Ann Parsekian called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM 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:**

Ann Parsekian, John Crane, Debra DeWitt, Mahwish Mustafa (arrived 7:09 pm), Alice Smyk , James LaMaire

##### **Absent:**

Joan Harris, John Engdahl

##### **Also Present:**

Kaitlin Cartoccio, Meeting Secretary  
Todd Edelstein

#### **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

Approval of EC meeting minutes from May 13, 2019 was tabled until the next meeting

#### **REPORTS**

No new reports.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Charter Day Review: All members who were present for Charter Day agreed the day was very successful. Mahwish Mustafa mentioned that the tree sapling were very popular with participants. This year the table was next to the Somerset County 4H table and space was shared. Mahwish Mustafa also requested they have another giveaway or something to attract people to the table. Ann Parsekian mentioned that next year they should let participants know they can plant the tree in a larger pot before planting in the ground as an option.

Reusable Bag Update – entries and winner selection: Reviewed entries for the Reusable Bag Contest. There were 6 entries from Bernards Township Schools. There was also discussion on writing the contestants to thank them and inviting the winner to a meeting. A winner and an honorable mention were picked. Motion by James LaMaire seconded by Alice Smyk.

Trex Plastic Bag Update: Debra DeWitt updated members on the Trex Plastic Bag project. She updated Mayor Carol Bianchi and Director of Parks and Recreation Jennifer Gander on the project. Spoke with Jorge Casacuberta, Director of Public Works about where to place the bins around town. The next step is to plan the placement for the bins around town and to find an organization to weigh the bags monthly with. Anne Parsekian suggested both to possibly move



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the bins every month to involve more of the town and to possibly involve the schools to get the youth involved.

### Master Plan Reexam

Review of Draft Comments to Planning Board: Anne Parsekian organized the input from the last meeting. All members reviewed the draft. All agreed that they would send final recommendations to Anne Parsekian, she would update and send final draft to members.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **a) Applications**

- i. **LCB Senior Living** – ZB-19-010-B2301, L31-219 Mt Airy Rd – site plans  
Motion by John Crane second by Alice Smyk to have comments prepared based on: disturbance of steep slope, use of perforated pipes, dust control during demolition, and recharge method due to storm water damage.

Roll Call: Ann Parsekian -Yes, John Crane -Yes, Debra DeWitt -Yes,  
Mahwish Mustafa -Yes, Alice Smyk -Yes , James LaMaire -Yes  
All in favor; motion carried.

- ii. **PIENAAR**- ZB-19-012-B7101, L14-12 Stockmar Dr  
Motion by John Crane second by Mahwish Mustafa to have comments prepared to discuss drainage and lot cover concerns.

Roll Call: Ann Parsekian -Yes, John Crane -Yes, Debra DeWitt -Yes,  
Mahwish Mustafa -Yes, Alice Smyk -Yes , James LaMaire -Yes  
All in favor; motion carried.

- i. **MASTRIANO** – ZB-19-013-B1701; L4 – 233 Madisonville Rd.  
No environmental concerns.

Roll Call: Ann Parsekian -Yes, John Crane -Yes, Debra DeWitt -Yes,  
Mahwish Mustafa -Yes, Alice Smyk -Yes , James LaMaire -Yes  
All in favor; motion carried.

- ii. **LATOURETTE** – ZB-19-014- B5302; L6 – 45 Canter Dr  
No environmental concerns. Motion by John Crane second by Debra Dewitt to prepare comments about recharge plan.

Roll Call: Ann Parsekian -Yes, John Crane -Yes, Debra DeWitt -Yes,  
Mahwish Mustafa -Yes, Alice Smyk -Yes , James LaMaire -Yes  
All in favor; motion carried.



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- v. **SKEA** – PB-19-001-B1805; L21/39 – 42 Dyckman/15 Rankin  
Debra Dewitt recused herself from the discussion of the application. No environmental concerns but Alice Smyk made a motion second by John Crane to prepare comments on lot coverage maximum.

Roll Call: Ann Parsekian -Yes, John Crane -Yes, Debra DeWitt - abstain,  
Mahwish Mustafa -Yes, Alice Smyk -Yes , James LaMaire -Yes  
All in favor; motion carried.  
Debra Dewitt returned to the meeting.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Todd Edelstein made comments on the Trex Plastic Bag project commenting it may be labor intensive and suggested the committee contact the Board of Education to discuss school involvement. He also asked about Crown Plaza and mowing the property.

### **COMMENTS BY MEMBERS**

None.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by James Lamaire second by Debra Dewitt to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 PM. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kaitlin Cartoccio, Meeting Secretary



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**TO:** Zoning Board Chairperson and Members

**FROM:** Ann Parsekian, Chairperson  
Bernards Township Environmental Commission

**DATE:** July 10, 2019

**RE:** **Applications for 7/10, 2019 BOA Meeting**

### **LCB Senior Living ZB-19-010**

The Environmental Commission has reviewed the above-noted application at their July 8, 2019 meeting and forwards the following comments.

1. The Applicant should consider recharge mechanisms (e.g., perforated pipe) for any new storm water utilities.
2. The Board should consider the potential benefit that a reduction in the amount of steep slopes greater than 25% could generate.
3. The Commission recommends dust control measures be required during demolition activity.

### **Pienaar ZB-19-012**

The Environmental Commission has reviewed the above noted application at their July 8, 2019 meeting and forwards the following comments.

The Environmental Commission notes the preexisting lot coverage exceeded the required amount, and no information about a prior variance approval has been provided. Nor is it known whether there are any existing site features that promote stormwater infiltration, although evidently more than 1000 sf of impervious coverage was added prior to the current application.

The Applicant is now requesting a variance for additional lot coverage. Increased impervious coverage increases the volume (quantity) of stormwater runoff, which can contribute to local and potentially area wide flooding. Site drainage is the concern with this application, therefore site features to promote stormwater infiltration should be considered. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Green Infrastructure website is a good reference for “green” stormwater management practices for homeowners (<http://www.nj.gov/dep/gi/>)



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### **Mastriano ZB-19-013**

The Environmental Commission has reviewed the above noted application at their July 8, 2019 meeting and has no concerns at this time.

### **LaTourette ZB-19-014**

The Environmental Commission has reviewed the above noted application at their July 8, 2019 meeting and forwards the following comments.

The Commission notes the lack of details regarding the recharge of stormwater as part of the proposed development. The recharge of stormwater is required when impervious surface is increased by >1,000 sq. ft. Site drainage is a concern with this application, therefore site features to promote stormwater infiltration should be considered. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Green Infrastructure website is a good reference for “green” stormwater management practices for homeowners (<http://www.nj.gov/dep/gi/>)

### **Skea PB-19-001**

The Environmental Commission has reviewed the above noted application at their July 8, 2019 meeting and forwards the following comments.

The Commission notes that the existing lot coverage exceeds the required amount and the proposed additional land will not cure that exceedance. The Applicant should be reminded that any future additions such as patios, sheds, pools or any other impervious surface coverage items would require a variance approval.

Cc: David Schley, Township Planner  
Cyndi Kiefer, Secretary; for distribution to BOA members