



**Virtual Meeting  
Hawthorne Environmental Commission – Minutes  
February 13, 2025**

Call to Order: Rayna Laiosa, Rob Meier, Holly Cowen., Mike Mariani, and Charles Stebbins (arrived at 8:02 pm)

Guests: Jacob Vander Pyl, Michael Turco, Janet Turco. John Bosloper, and Judi Bosloper,

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8454403062?pwd=Yno2T1cxRmZVK29ralF0ZjNMb0RKZz09>

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- I. Attendance and Acceptance of Meeting –
  - a. Hawthorne Environmental Commission – Minutes January 9, 2025  
Motion by: Robert Meier, 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion: Holly Cowen
- II. Hawthorne Planning Board – Robert Meier – No report provided
- III. Green Team Meeting
  - a. Community Garden
    1. Announcement of 2025 Growing Season – four (4) garden beds are available to Hawthorne Residents; Deadline Wednesday February 19, 2025; publicity – Council meeting, Mayor’s weekly letter, Facebook, Nixle, and press releases – Gazette and Tap Into Hawthorne – Completed
    2. 2025 Community Garden – Application, and Rules & Regulations – Posted on website; Communicated to All gardeners – no deadline yet due to the announcement of the four (4) garden beds.
  - a. Next Green Team Meeting: Monday February 24, 2025 at 7:30 pm
- VI. Kids to Kids Newsletter Winter 2025 – Composting; Will be sent in February 2025.

- VII. ANJEC Workshop – “**New Year, New Members: Recruiting for Success**”  
 Thursday February 6, 2025 at 7:00 pm - good presentation; highlighted recruitment – create brochures Highlight the Who/What the Environmental Commission; use social media; week of April 20 to 26, 2025 – Volunteer Appreciation Week Designated – Rayna will discuss with Mayor
- VIII. Sustainable Jersey- 1<sup>st</sup> Deadline February 23, 2025; 2<sup>nd</sup> Deadline May 16, 2025, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Deadline July 31, 2025
- a. Approved Sustainable Jersey Action Plans
    1. Brownfield Assessment & Investigation 12/31/2025 expires – 20 points
    2. Natural Resource Inventory – **Priority** – 20 points
    3. Tree Protection Ordinance No expiration date – 10 points
    4. Tree Planting 12/31/2025 expires – 10 points
  - b. Sustainable Jersey Action Plans – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
    1. Green Team – Mandatory –Resolution – Passed Council January 22, 2025 – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
    2. Green Grounds & Maintenance Policy – Re-Adopt Policy –Council January 22, 2025 – Distributed to departments; Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database; Re-reviewed the Policy with Commissioners
    3. Environmental Commission – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
    4. Community Partnership & Outreach – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
    5. Green Fair – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
    6. Prescription Drug & Safety – **Priority** – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
    7. Emergency Communication Planning – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
    8. Hawthorne Community Garden – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
    9. Municipal Communication Strategy - Sent to Boro on January 18, 2025 for review and update – received; Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
    10. Digitizing Public Information – Sent to Boro on January 18, 2025 for review and update – received; Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
    11. Farmers’ Market and Accessible Farmers’ Market – In Process; waiting for information from Chamber to finalize documents; received; Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
    12. Community Food Pantry/Bank & Soup Kitchen – In-Process – Completed and Uploaded SJ Database
    13. Community Paper Shredding Day – In Process; waiting for additional information from Boro; received; Completed and Uploaded SJ Database
    14. Recycling Depot – In Process; received updated photos; Completed and Uploaded SJ Database
  - c. Sustainable Jersey Action Plans – To be Updated - 2024/2025 Activities
    1. Recycled Materials & Composting
    2. Mayor’s Wellness Program – In Process - Sent to Boro on January 26, 2025 and Mary Mahon for requested information; received information from various departments and organizations; Senior & Youth completed; In Process – Employees & Community
    3. Non-Mandated Materials Recycling – In Process (need 2024 Annual Recycling Tonnage Report – will be submitted to NJDEP by April 30, 2025)

4. Household Hazardous Waste – In Process (need 2024 Annual Recycling Tonnage Report – will be submitted to NJDEP by April 30, 2025)
  5. Recycling & Waste Reduction Education & Compliance – **Priority**
  6. Sustainable Land Use Pledge - **Priority** - Prepared documents; waiting for response from SJ – Borough of Hawthorne Adopted Pledge in Re Exam 2022 Master Plan Elements in July 2022; SJ responded via email – must have a resolution and distribute to appropriate departments and boards
  7. Vulnerable Population Identification for Emergencies – Sent to Police for review
  8. Brownfield Inventory & Prioritization – In Process - Review Updated 2025 Brownfield Inventory with Commissioners; will distribute to Planning Board and Zoning Board Members, as well as Mayor, Boro Administrator and Boro Attorney.
  9. Community Asset Planning
  10. Fleet Inventory – **Priority**
  11. Anti Idling Education & Enforcement Program
  12. Buy Local Campaign
  13. Support Local Campaign
  14. Community Forestry Management Plan & NJUCF Accreditation
    - a. Tree Hazard Inventory
    - b. Tree Maintenance Programs
  15. Innovative Project – Silver Girl Scout Badge Project
- IX. 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Cel Earth Bration – Saturday April 26, 2025 – Hawthorne High School
- a. School Use Application submitted – Approved in December 2024; There is no play on this date; HHS play will be conducted in March 2025. Therefore, we can ask HHS to use the auditorium if we need it. There will be a new Superintendent after Aug 1, 2025
  - b. Discussion of theme and T-shirt design
    1. Water = Life – Selected – Mike will bring an initial sketch of the logo at next meeting
    2. Potential Vendors
      - a. Hawthorne Fire Department
    3. Communication to School System – Initial Letter in February announcing Cel Earth Brarion and the Theme; 2<sup>nd</sup> Letter along with the Registration Forms sent the End of March
  - c. Potential Vendors
    1. Hawthorne Fire Department
  - d. Communication to School System – Initial Letter in February announcing Cel Earth Bration and the Theme; 2<sup>nd</sup> Letter along with the Registration Forms sent – End of March
- X. Update on Issues and Commissioners Concerns – None

**Next Hawthorne Environmental Commission Meeting**  
**Thursday March 13, 2025 at 7:30 pm**