



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

**Call to Order:** Rayna Laiosa, Mary Mahon, Holly Cowen, Rob Meier, Pat MacDonnell, Mike Mariani, Maureen Cook, Charles Stebbins (arrived at 8:07 pm)  
Guests: John Bosloper, Judi Bosloper, Mike Turco, Janet Turco, and Craig Cayetano

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- I. Attendance and Acceptance of Meeting –
  - a. Hawthorne Environmental Commission – Minutes February 13, 2025  
Motion by: Rob Meier, 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion by: Holly Cowen
- II. Hawthorne Planning Board – Robert Meier Nothing to report
- 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; Extended to February 28, 2025; three (3) people have submitted garden bed applications All of them have been notified. One (1) remaining garden bed; Girl Scouts expressed an interest, but have not submitted an application.
    2. 2025 Community Garden – Application, and Rules & Regulations – Posted on website; Communicated to All gardeners – Deadline Monday March 17, 2025; Gardeners invited to March 31<sup>ST</sup> meeting

3. Structural –Volunteer hours they are available Tues, Thursday, Friday of April and May. They will be asked to remove old mulch. No new mulch this year. Mike will go down and report on garden beds. Maureen checked and Bill said they are welcome to do garden work.
  - b. Bird Walks – Spring 2025 – Saturday April 5, 2025 – Goffle Brook Park, Sunday May 4, 2025 – Goffle Brook Park, Wednesday May 7, 2025 Goffle Brook Park, Saturday May 31, 2025 8 Acre Woods, and Sunday June 8, 2025 8 Acre Woods , time 9 AM. Rayna will create the JPEG for Facebook
  - c. Next Green Team Meeting: Monday March 31, 2025 at 7:30 pm
- VI. 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 – Met the February 23, 2025 Deadline
    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
    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
    15. Brownfield Inventory & Prioritization – In Process - Review Updated 2025 Brownfield Inventory with Commissioners – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
    16. 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 – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
17. Community Asset Planning – Hawthorne Green Map – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
  18. Buy Local Campaign - Map – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
  19. Support Local Campaign - Map – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
  20. Recycled Materials & Composting – Completed and Uploaded into SJ Database
- c. Sustainable Jersey Action Plans – To be Updated - 2024/2025 Activities - 2<sup>ND</sup> round Deadline May 16th, 2025
1. Non-Mandated Materials Recycling – In Process (need 2024 Annual Recycling Tonnage Report – will be submitted to NJDEP by April 30, 2025)
  2. Household Hazardous Waste – In Process (need 2024 Annual Recycling Tonnage Report – will be submitted to NJDEP by April 30, 2025)
  3. Recycling & Waste Reduction Education & Compliance – **Priority Green Lecture** to be set up at Library on Recycling, Maureen to preside April 3<sup>RD</sup> 7-8:30. Need to Create Publicity Documents – Press Release, Facebook, etc. Mary contacted Library all set.; March 10, 2025 - Code Officer provided 2024 and January to March 2025 Recycling Inspections and Violations Report for Action Plan. Maureen to ask Mayor to add Green Lecture to his weekly newsletter.
  4. 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 - Council Meeting Re-Adoption of Resolution -March 19, 2025 – Discussed Re-Pledging of Sustainable Land Use Pledge and Practices
  5. Vulnerable Population Identification for Emergencies – Sent to Police for review
  6. Fleet Inventory – **Priority** Need to be put in Resolution although already exists.
  7. Anti Idling Education & Enforcement Program - Discussion of Letter prepared by Janet Turco; A big Thank You to Janet. Discussion followed on how to promote. Ask Police and Superintendent to partner with Green Team to add validity to Press release and flyer. Publicity - send to Tap, PTO and HEC website. Check if police would do warnings?
  8. Community Forestry Management Plan & NJUCF Accreditation – Working with Hawthorne Shade Tree Commission
    - a. Tree Hazard Inventory
    - b. Tree Maintenance Programs
  9. Innovative Project – Silver Girl Scout Badge Project – Received information/documentation from Melissa/Zoe
- VII. 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Cel Earth Bration – Saturday April 26, 2025 – Hawthorne High School
- a. School Use Application submitted – Approved in December 2024
  - b. Discussion of theme and T-shirt design
    1. Theme Water = Life – T-Shirts – Black Color
  - c. Reuseable Bags – Status Update – We are good with bags; No need to order additional bags for 2025 event
  - d. Communication to School System – March 2, 2025 - Sent Letter to Teachers and Registration Forms – Hawthorne School System, Hawthorne Christian Academy, and St. Anthony’s School

1. Deadline: Monday April 21, 2025; Mary is the contact person between the Schools and Hawthorne Environmental Commission Registration
  2. Mary will collect registration forms and create list of participants; Need volunteers Registration Table
  3. Three winners for K-2, 3-5 and 6-8
  4. Ribbons – Along with the Ribbon, each winning student will receive a Cel Earth Bration Certificate; in addition to publicity on social media
  5. Judges – Need (2) Commissioners/Green Team Members
- e. Potential Vendors
1. Hawthorne Fire Department– regarding the wildfires
  2. Colour and Whim. Mary will contact owners – No - Mary will do table asked for Laundry bottle caps.
  3. Food/Refreshments - Pappy’s Juice Mary contacted - Yes
  4. Hawthorne Shade Tree Commission
  5. Snakes and Scales Maureen will contact – Confirmed – Two (2) shows at 11:00 am and 12:30 pm
  6. Hawthorne Birds – Holly – Yes
  7. Hawthorne Recycling Program - Yes
  8. Plant Swap- Mary will contact Peggy Weber – Yes
  9. Paper Making Mary will contact Sandie - No
  10. Hawthorne Historic Society - Yes
  11. Alexandria – World Paper and Lyme Disease Yes
  12. Boy Scouts – Rayna will contact Rich
  13. Girl Scouts - Rayna will contact – sent email to Dana Pergola – No
  14. LMS Games – Amanda Cardenus and Victoria Sabitino - Mary will follow up
  15. Craig will check about Electric Car
- f. Pizza for Volunteers - Maureen to check how many and contact Puzo’s
- g. Giveaways – LMS Games - Mary will contact Lincoln Middle School teachers
- h. Tattoos – Need Volunteers
- i. Registration Table - Jacob - Yes
- j. Volunteers – Ryan McMann – HHS Honor Society, Cynthia Dockray; Rachel Green, - Rayna
- k. Publicity – Press Release – Rayna will develop and submit, Flyer – Discussed Flyer Design; Rayna will create, Facebook, Lawn Signs, Electronic Messaging Board, Boro Hall Electronic Board, and Nixle
- l. Photographer – Mike Mariani
- m. Poster – Schedule of Events - Maureen will bring White Boards

VIII. Update on Issues and Commissioners Concerns - None

**Next Hawthorne Environmental Commission Meeting  
Thursday April 17, 2025 at 7:30 pm**