



**Virtual Meeting
Hawthorne Environmental Commission/Green Team Minutes
May 14, 2020**

Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79368337719?pwd=UEdRYm5zWEd4U0dUL3JoU2NWSWVaZz09>

Meeting ID: 793 6833 7719

Password: 029111

Call to Order: Rayna Laiosa, Pat MacDonald, Carol Robertson, Rosanne Zagatta, Mike Mariani, Mary Mahon.

Guests: Maureen Cook, Alexandra Soteriou, Lisa DeVos, Holly Cowen, Craig Cayetano, Christine Carr, James Nemitoff (Boy Scouts Troop #170), Ellen Brogno, and Elizabeth Dello Buono,

- I. Attendance and Acceptance of Meeting –
 - a. Environmental Commission/Green Team Minutes – February 27, 2020
Motion by Mary Mahon, Second by: Carol Robertson

- II. Planning Board Report – No report provided; there has been no scheduled Planning Board meetings since February 2020

- III. Zoning Board of Adjustment
 - a. 53 Braen Avenue LLC – 10 Sotnick Street Application – Hearing July 2019; Preliminary discussed the revised plans for two (2) family homes in a R-1 Zone; Highlighted past environmental Commission’s concerns (letter dated November 7, 2013); Commission submitted written comments dated July 14, 2019; Re-Postponed to Monday February 24, 2020 – Due to conflicting roles, Chairperson of the Hawthorne Environmental Commission and Councilwoman for Ward 2, Rayna is unable to testify at Zoning and Planning Board meetings. The Commission report was reviewed and discussed at the February 24, by the Borough Engineer, Boswell. Project revised the disturbance of the steep slopes for the two (2) homes. Applicant will re-submit a revised steep slope figure. Next meeting is TBD.

- IV. Green Team
 - a. Community Garden – Turn on Water and Mulch delivery was done on May 13th. Rayna will contact Goffle Brook Farms regarding the community garden program – our understanding is that each gardener will receive a \$10 gift card.
 - b. Virtual Green Lectures discussed; Lisa and Holly will consider organizing some Hawthorne Birds material for a lecture. Discussed Bird Bingo activity for everyone. Goffle Brook Park Plants by Alexandra Soterious – posting photos and a description on Facebook pages; Request to develop Goffle Brook Plant booklet and table of contents; similar to the Passaic County Native Plants Booklet that was created for the our Native Plant Program. This would All lectures will be

publicizing through FaceBook, Tap Into Hawthorne, Electronic Bulletin Board, and Boro's website.

- c. Green Lecture – Scheduled for Thursday May 28, 2020 at 7:30 pm – Learn about Lyme Disease – by Alexandra Soteriou; Alexandra will update the Press Release. Rayna will issue the Press Release to various medias – Tap Into Hawthorne, Boro's website, nixle, and facebook. Craig will work to develop a flyer.

V. Gateway to the Passaic River Project

- a. New Jersey's Free Fishing Days – Saturday June 6, 2020 and Saturday October 17, 2020
- b. Re-Start May 2020 – complete the installation of the Rain Gardens and the planting of native plants; Rayna will contact Rutgers and Downes for a re-start of project. Downes completed the installation of the rain gardens and wooden guard rail starting Wednesday January 29 through Friday January 31, 2020. Rayna and Carol monitored the progress. – Rain Gardens are completed; Remining Tasks – install the stones/gravel, plant native plants, and install rain garden sign. Rutgers delivered the native plants on Friday May 15, 2020 and Downes planted the plants and installed the stone/gravel on Saturday May 16, 2020! Once we can schedule a Grand Opening Date, then the remaining tasks – installation of rain garden and Gateway to the Passaic River Trail Signs, and tree tags will be completed.
- c. Trail Map Status – Finalized - all agreed 200 copies – 60 lb paper – non-gloss printing (\$325); Rayna communicated to Marc for printing of the trail map.
- d. Rutgers – Native Plants - Rayna contacted Rutgers to let them about the rain garden installation news!; Tentatively Planting Date: Saturday May 16, 2020 Downes Tree Services will plant the native plants.
- e. Trail Sign, Rain Garden Sign, and tree tags installation – TBD
- f. Grand Opening – TBD – Depends on Governor Murphy's Executive Orders – outdoor events

VI. Trek Plastic Recycling 2020 Program -Hawthorne Environmental Commission – TBD – ON HOLD

- a. Community Program – town/organization determines the 6 month timeframe
- b. Launch Community Program – Craig has completed the flyer
- c. Potential Locations –

Location	Designated Env Com/Green Team Member – TBD
Boro Hall	Liana Romano
Hawthorne Library	Carol Robertson, then Mike Mariani
Sparkler Dry Cleaners	Patty Elwood
Paul's Motor	Mary Mahon
Hawthorne Farmers' Market	Robert Meier
B Witching Bath Co.	Waiting for response

- d. Collection bin – made in the USA cardboard bins; discussed plastic liner to collect the plastics – Agree we need to purchase cardboard bins and plastic liner; Size 40 gallons; Length – 17 1/2 inch; Width 17 1/2 inch; and Height 29 3/4 inch; Maureen will contact approved existing vendor for price comparison from Web Restaurant Store; received information; comparable pricing from local approved vendor. Containers have been ordered – 10 White 42 Gallon corrugated Recycled Material. On each of the containers there will be a 11 x 17 Trex Posters

and 11 x 17 Hawthorne Slogan “Reduce Waste Put Plastics In Its Place”; **Next Step:** Need to pricing for printing of the these materials; need 12 of each; Grand Total of 24 11 x 17 posters; Maureen will get printing proposal; - **Delivered – Completed Next Step:** – Delivery Date of the Cardboard boxes? – **Delivered – Complete.**

- VII. 28th Annual Cel Earth Bration April 18, 2020 – Postponed to 2021
 - a. Theme - Team Agreed: “Reduce Waste Put Plastic In Its Place”
 - b. Thank You Notes – Carol and Rosanne will prepare and deliver thank you notes for the cel earth Bration prizes collected prior to the cancellation of the event.
- VIII. Annual June Environmental Program – June 8, 2020 -Cancelled
- IX. Town Wide Environmental Virtual Activity Discussion – Ideas/Brain Storm Session Involve Community in Environmental Awareness
 - a. Green Lectures for children to do Container Gardening for Everyone - Pat to contact Jack or Barbara for Community Gardening Ideas... Vegetable and/or Herb gardens; photos, step by step instructions (ie You Tube video); End Result/Goal – Prize for the Participants – Winner for the Most unusual category,;
 - b. Cooking Class – Healthy recipes
 - c. Buy local campaigns to support businesses in town discussed; Take Out Bingo,
 - d. Hawthorne First: - Favorite Local Hawthorne Shops, Favorite Hawthorne Places, Favorite Business
 - e. Poster Contest “What I Love About Hawthorne” discussed- Rosanne will develop a flyer for social media; Favorite: Shops, Places, Sport , What to see, What to do,
 - f. Importance of keeping the community aware and “in the know” of environmental sustainability discussed; By providing opportunities for all residents to Take Action during the summer months.
- X. Update on Issues and Commissioners Concerns, Next Steps
 - a. Shade Tree Commission will again offer tree seedlings to the public – Saturday June 6, 2020 at Paul’s Motors

**Hawthorne Environmental Commission/Green Team Joint Meeting
Thursday June 11, 2020 at 7:00 PM
Virtual Meeting – ZOOM**