



**Virtual Meeting
Hawthorne Environmental Commission Minutes
July 2, 2020**

Call to Order: Rayna Laiosa, Rosanne Zagatta, Pat MacDonnell, Mike Mariani, Mary Mahon, and Rob Meier

Guests: Craig Cayetano, Elizabeth Barker, Dawn Zagatta, Alex Vetlov, and Alexandra Soteriou

Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 845 440 3062

Password: 8bdZWY

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- I. Attendance and Acceptance of Meeting –
 - a. Environmental Commission/Green Team Minutes – June 11, 2020
Motion by Rosanne Zagatta, Second by: Pat MacDonnell
- II. Planning Board Report - – No updated report
- III. Zoning Board of Adjustment
 - a. 53 Braen Avenue LLC – 10 Sotnick Street - Next meeting is July meeting.
- IV. Green Team
 - a. Community Garden – Overgrown bushes adjacent to the community garden; Pat MacDonald will visit and take photos. Pat submitted photos to Maureen Cook to issue a DPW Work Order.

- b. Buy local campaigns to support businesses in town -discussed Facebook Campaign “How I supported Hawthorne this Week?” Will start the week of June 21, 2020; Hashtag was created several years ago - #ShopHawthorneNJ; - In Progress
 - c. Virtual Green Lectures via Zoom Meetings
 1. **Learn about Lyme Disease** - Scheduled for Thursday May 28, 2020 at 7:30 pm — by Alexandra Soterious; Went very well; **Attendance of 15 participants**
 2. **Hawthorne Birds** - Lisa and Holly will consider organizing some Hawthorne Birds material for a lecture. Participants Take Action - Discussed Bird Bingo activity for everyone. – Tuesday June 30, 2020 at 7:30 pm; **Attendance of 27 participants**
 3. **Container Gardening for Everyone** – Rayna and Pat - Vegetable and/or Herb gardens; photos, step by step instructions (ie YouTube video); Take the Green Team Challenge Container Gardening Prize for the Participants – Winner for the Most unusual category and most weight (lbs or pieces) - Thursday June 18, 2020 at 7:30 pm; Promote Green Team Challenge via social media; **Attendance of 9 participants**; Pat reached out to the local daycares/nursery schools for participation – Pre-School Learning Tree, Magic Carousel, and Boys & Girls Club
 4. 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 our Native Plant Program. All lectures will be publicizing through Face Book, Tap Into Hawthorne, Electronic Bulletin Board, and Boro’s website. Next Step: Rayna will call Alexandra on status. – June 19, 2020 - Alexandra is working the information; plants continue to be bloomed throughout the summer into Fall; Anticipate sometime in the Fall with draft of Goffle Brook Park Plant booklet.
 5. Other Suggested Topics by Green Lecture participants from Learn about Lyme Disease –
 1. Recycling – Maureen will work on program for the end of July/Beginning of August,
 2. Composting – June 2020 - Mary created the video for the Virtual Green Lecture, Rayna will create the presentation.
 3. Trap Feral Cat Program – discussed – will be evaluated at another time.
 - d. Virtual Green Team Meeting – Monday July 27, 2020 at 7:30 pm
- V. Town Wide Environmental Virtual Activity Discussion – Involve Community in Environmental Awareness
- a. Month of July - Poster Contest “Why I Love Hawthorne” – Press Release Completed and will be issued by July 6, 2020
 - b. Cooking Class – Healthy recipes – Mary will follow up with Robin Garmise; more than likely it will be on Nutrition
- VI. Gateway to the Passaic River Project
- a. Sustainable Jersey and ANJEC – Request additional 90 day extension – September 30, 2020 – Approved by both organizations
 - b. 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. Mike Mariani confirmed Opaque paper for the Trail Map; Delivery of trail maps week of July 13, 2020; Request Invoice

- c. Trail Sign posts , Rain Garden Sign psot, and tree tags installation – Week of July 13, 2020 Installation by Downes Tree Services
 - d. Milkweed – Rain Garden – Alexandra will contact Rohsler’s regarding the native plants;
 - e. Grand Opening –Tentatively- Saturday July 25, 2020 at 10:00 am Rain Date: Sunday July 26, 2020 at 10:00 am; Dependent upon all activities are completed.
 - 1. Create Invitation and List – Rayna
 - 2. Distribution list of the invitation – Hawthorne Businesses/Residents adjacent to the Gateway project area – Rayna
 - 3. Press Release – Social media (Facebook, Boro’s website, Nixel and tap into hawthorne, and gazette)
- VII. Borough Owned Properties - Native Plant and Clean Up Discussion
- a. Municipal Building Boro Hall – Need list of native plants from Mike – Lincoln Landscaping; Rayna has repeatedly requested information; concern about the watering of the plants at Boro Hall; sprinkler system needs to be evaluated. Sprinkler system has a multi areas of the front and back of the municipal building. Rayna will work with the Administrator and DPW on the evaluation of the sprinkler system at the municipal building.
 - b. Library – Rain Garden – Commission will re-plant milkweed plants in the rain garden/monarch butterfly garden; Milkweed will be purchased by the Commission’s 2020 budget. Mary Mahon will reach out to Monica Smith, Director of the Library, for permission to plant the milkweed. Rayna will follow up with Joe Metlzer – sprinkler system head in the monarch butterfly to determine if it is working. Alexandra will contact Rohsler’s regarding the native plants;
 - c. 8 Acre Woods - Discussed need to develop a comprehensive plan to address the overgrown paths, litter/debris, and the observation decks. Potential ideas: community native plant area, create more walking paths, preserve the biodiversity, and another community garden. 5th Landscaping, Tom, owner, is interested in helping with the clean up of the 8 Acre Woods – posted recently on Facebook; Tasked Alex to contact Tom to determine what Tom can offer the Commission; Alex will take the 8 Acre Wood trail map to develop a plan in phases om how to clean up the 8 Acre Woods.
- VIII. Update on Issues and Commissioners Concerns, Next Steps
- a. Shred Day – Saturday August 8, 2020 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm – Scheduled
 - b. Need to propose dates for a Styrofoam Collection Drive in September 2020

**Virtual Hawthorne Environmental Commission
ZOOM Meeting
Thursday August 13, 2020 at 7:00 pm**