PARAMUS ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
BOROUGH OF PARAMUS
JOCKISH SQUARE
PARAMUS, NEW JERSEY 07652

Richard A. LaBarbiera
Mayor

Date: Monday, March 09, 2020
Location: Borough Hall

I. Meeting called to order at 8:00 PM
II. Pledge of Allegiance
III. Roll Call
   a. Tony Landa present via phone
   b. Melissa Marte present
   c. Matt Giugliano absent
   d. Tom Caiaffa present
   e. Vincent Piccinich present
   f. Jamie Love present
   g. Jade Sobh present
   h. Mark Cristoldi present
   i. Councilwoman Weber absent
IV. Approval of February Minutes
   a. Motion – Jade Sobh
   b. Second – Vincent Piccinich
   c. All in favor
V. Council Report – None
VI. Planning board – None
VII. Communications – None
VIII. Old Business
   a. By laws
      i. Jade and Tony will meet before next meeting to discuss
   b. State legislation update – bill to designate “Earth day” week to enforce litter clean up
      i. Bill S864 prohibits provision or sale of plastic/paper/Styrofoam/straws passed in senate received by assembly environmental and solid waste committee
      ii. Bill S865 – large food waste generators to separate food waste from other solid waste and send to authorized food waste facility
   c. Earth Day
      i. High school has nothing new
      ii. High school clubs think it is too soon to start planning; trying to see what clubs are actually interested
      iii. Reached out to Valley Hospital and they are excited and might attended – have a lot of green efforts and building
      iv. Reached out to Assistant Superintendent to get the other schools involved – will contact them
      v. No tents provided – must provide own pop up if desired
      vi. Letter for businesses asking if they want to be a part of event sent out
      vii. Food vouchers for participants – 2 per organization
         1. All in favor
         2. Tony taking lead on food trucks: will reach out to Gigi
      viii. Request to borrow table and chairs from High School
      ix. Signs for Earth day should be set up starting April 22, 2020 (official Earth Day)
d. Water quality in Bergen County
   i. Was brought up to Council – notified that it is other towns not Paramus; looked further and it is a specific test but Paramus was not listed.
   ii. Concern that Paramus did not test the water site – can buy at home test kit

e. PSEG installation of LED lighting
   i. Town will not pay for replacements as PSEG is replacing them with LEDs themselves
   ii. ANJEC has a program that will do energy audit for free

f. ANJEC grant – pollinator garden
   i. Waiting to hear back from grant writers

IX. New Business
   a. Exemption from Century21 – seeking an extension because bags were ordered from China in November but will not be delivered in timely fashion
      i. Some concerns: is that if it is opened up it will leave door open for others to ask for extension; went into effect March 1st so must already be using compliant bags; how long is delay?
      ii. Suggestions: give an extra 30 days; give a month and then check in; use paper then if they run out temporarily use plastic
   b. Trex community recycling program – Waldwick collected “x” amount of plastic bags and turned it into a bench; 4-6 week time frame was met in 1 week
      i. All in favor to get more information on this project
   c. Community outreach – Mark would like to reach out to groups and send email including information about the plastic bag ban. Tony has documentation that is almost ready for distribution

X. Adjournment 8:54 pm
   a. Motion – Tom Caiaffa
   b. Second – Jade Sobh
   c. All in favor

Respectfully Submitted
Nicole Smith
Environmental Commission Secretary