

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

Chris DiPiazza
Mayor

Date: Monday March 13, 2023
Location: Borough Hall Caucus Room

- I. Meeting called to order at 7:04 PM
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
 - a. Elisa Giblin present
 - b. Robert Riccoboni present
 - c. Tom Caiaffa present
 - d. Jamie Love present
 - e. Elizabeth Haines absent
 - f. Tony Landa absent
 - g. Sofya Haque absent
 - h. Brian Bibeau present
 - i. Denis Niland present
 - j. Councilman Quintana absent
- IV. Approval of February minutes
 - a. Motion – Elisa
 - b. Second – Bob
 - c. All in favor
- V. Council Report – N/A
- VI. Planning Board report
 - a. Multi-tenant business
 - i. Not extending building and will have to put up a fence in the back to block lights and add shrubbery
 - b. Application put in for Spring Valley Road – religious center
 - i. Looking to knock down home and tree in back yard
 1. Tree is registered with the state and is fairly large and not common
 - c. Housing units by Bergen Town Center
 - i. 456 units total – 167 one bedroom, 268 two bedrooms, and 14 three bedrooms – 68 affordable housing units
 - d. Commission questions/concerns:
 - i. Are there plans for green spaces?
 - ii. Are they considering the trees? Is it possible to ask developers to put more trees to aid with flooding and noise?
 - iii. How does the building material used affect the environment?
 - iv. Can the commission make requests for solar panels, electric charging stations etc.?
 - v. More housing means more cars which means more pollution
 - vi. With more housing, how will this affect the school system?
- VII. Communications – N/A

VIII. Old Business

- a. Earth Day April 30, 2023 2-5pm (can we extend to 5pm? – Nicole will look into and confirm)
 - i. Flyer needed
 - ii. Styrofoam drive located at the front lot of the High School during same hours as Earth Day event
 - iii. Brian will be back up MC for Tony
 - iv. Send Styrofoam flyer to Mrs. T
 - v. Can we do a contest for the Styrofoam for the schools? – what would the incentive be?
 - vi. HOPE club updates – will have painting pet rocks, origami, story about Bob the bottle and quizzes
 - vii. Food vendors – inviting “snack” type food trucks
 - viii. Entertainment – looking for the choir/band/orchestra/dance etc. Asking Danielle Denoia if she is interested in performing the national anthem. Maybe have the school do an excerpt from the play
 - ix. Art contest – waiting on the schools to submit
 - x. Is it ok to have the k9 unit from Bergen County Sheriffs?
 - xi. Scouts are doing a sneaker collection which will be both a fundraiser for them and a conservation project
 - xii. Ask Mayor to give a brief speech at opening
- b. Three-year plan – to be discussed at next meeting
- c. Composting – put together a business plan
 - i. Bergen community college will give tour of their site

IX. New business

- a. Clean up event – May 6th
 - i. Who will be able to participate
 - ii. Elisa, Tom, Jamie (maybe), Bob
 - iii. 9am – 11am
 - iv. Will food be available? – snacks/lunch/drinks etc.
- b. Sweeper broom donation update – tabled till next meeting
- c. Bob is requesting a banner be hung on recycling center gate to display household hazardous waste dates – Nicole said it probably will not be allowed by DPW as it is not hosted through us and there are space concerns
- d. Office supply recycling – will print out a flyer – done through teracycle
- e. Questions:
 - i. Can the commission attend planning board meetings? – yes, they are open to public
 - ii. Does the commission have the power to do anything? – no they are advisory and can only make suggestions
 - iii. Should the commission put their concerns/questions into writing and bring to mayor and council? – yes writing is always better however if the commission wishes to bring to mayor and council the chain of command needs to be followed.
 1. Jamie – Nicole – Hassan – back to Nicole – then to borough clerk to request be placed on agenda

X. Adjournment 8:28 PM

- a. Motion – Jamie
- b. Second – Tom
- c. All in favor

Respectfully Submitted
Nicole Smith
Environmental Commission Secretary