

Bloomfield Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes

July 15, 2020

Call to order in Council Chambers @ 7:40

Roll Call: Nick Joanow, Rich Moseson, Oliver Young, Cailyn Bruno, Flint Kinkade. Guests Florence Rollino, Elizabeth Pacheco-Fallon, Molly Smith

June minutes approved as amended.

Old Business

1. Bloomfield Buzz Articles - EC will write a summary describing the food waste bill #2371. Oliver and Cailyn can help write, due end of the week
2. ERI Subcommittee – Nick reached out to township administration on the status of draft ERI RFP. The township is in a wait and see pattern, withholding 15% of budget due to the ongoing public health emergency, and the request for funding for the ERI might not happen this year. BEC should keep following up through Nick and follow up on the Sustainable Jersey grant to make sure we can have access to that money next year.
3. Sustainable Jersey Recertification – Nick offered to coordinate a Zoom call next Thursday 23rd at 7:30. Molly needs access to Google drive, Cailyn or Oliver to coordinate. Bloomfield is in the process of moving a solar project forward with schools—can use initiative for points?
4. 71 Locust Avenue (milkweed) – 75 people signed up to adopt milkweed plants. Plants were distributed to 3 dozen people. Oliver put together a map showing where the milkweed plants were transplanted to show the pollinator pathway we created. There are still 8-10 pots that can be adopted by people on the waiting list. There is still the opportunity to dig up more plants if there are volunteers for the labor and to donate pots.
5. Plastic Bag Ban – BEC should move forward with the next step to reach out to Bloomfield Center Alliance/Chamber of Commerce. Would that include Styrofoam take out? Could consider a pilot program, where we collect data on the economics of it to present to other restaurants. We could survey restaurants in Montclair what the business impact was from their ban,
6. Tree Ordinance Revision – No update
7. NJ Food Waste Assembly Bill #2371 – Cailyn gave a summary on anaerobic digestion.
8. NJ Composting Council - Pilot Program - No update

New Business

1. Possible Milkweed Plantings on Township Owned Land – Inquiry about the end of Ashland Ave, which dead ends by parking lots for a senior citizen's complex. A resident was interested in planting milkweed where it is currently overgrown with weeds. Nick says township has in the past allowed use of township land as long as it is maintained. Nick requesting pictures and email with formal request so he can determine ownership

Adjourned 9:34pm