

**Environmental Commission &  
Sustainable Montgomery Subcommittee Minutes  
September 19, 2023**

**Adequate notice of this meeting has been posted and sent to the officially designated newspapers.**

**Environmental Commission Attendance:**

( √ ) Mary Reece, Member	( √ ) Kathy Lynch, Alt. 1
(N) Susann Brown, Member—	(N) Ratna Revankar, Alt. 2
( √ ) Frank Derby, Member (left 6:33PM)	(N) Brian Zinn, Advisor
(N) Michelle Jacob, Member	(N) Sahana Karthik, YLC
(√ ) Greg Kaganowicz, Member	(N) Maahi Sethi, YLC
( √ ) Yasmin Reyes, Member	( √ ) Devra Keenan, TC liaison
( √ ) Sarah Roberts, Member	

**Additional Sustainable Montgomery Subcommittee Advisors**

(N) Thuy Anh Le  
( √ ) Lauren Wasilauski

**Guests:** Susan Bristol, The Watershed Institute; Mike Pisauro, The Watershed Institute

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 pm at The Watershed Institute's offices in Pennington.

**Agenda Items**

- Municipal Stormwater (MS4 & IFP rule) presentation  
Susan Bristol, Municipal Policy Specialist for The Watershed Institute presented a very thorough review of the DEP's updated regulations for the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) regulations, as well as the Inland Flood Protection rules.  
  
Greg mentioned that lawns are a very big contributing factor to stormwater runoff.
- Lenape Land Acknowledgement
- Approval of Minutes – June 6, 2023  
Minutes were not taken.
- Approval of Minutes – August 1, 2023
  - Motion by Sarah Roberts, Second by Kathy Lynch
  - All in favor: all    Opposed: none
- Public Comment
  - None

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- 2024 Budget Request
  - \$6000 will be requested, consistent with previous years' requests
  - Include Sustainable Jersey Silver Recertification due February 2024.
- Lenape Land Acknowledgement
  - Actions to accompany acknowledgement
    - Bridgeton group will have new website-identify ways that we can support their work, e.g., art, land donation
    - Potential actions: video on township website
- New Municipal Center – green initiatives
  - Solar- Municipal staff met with consultant
  - EV charging stations- Quote received, moving forward
  - Rain garden- Potential scout project
  - Maintenance of lawn & field areas
  - Detention basins
  - Maintaining existing trees & shrubs; planting new trees- Received grant money, targeting spring for plantings
  - River Friendly certification- work in progress
- River Friendly
  - MHS is now certified, a sign should be installed soon
- Composting- Information on resources provided to person that requested information.
- Sponsorship of MFOS rain barrel workshop – date To Be Determined
  - Motion by Mary to reimburse tuition for Montgomery residents with documentation of installation (e.g., Photo). Maximum 25 participants. Second by Frank Derby
  - All in favor: all    Opposed: none
- Grants
  - 2022 DEP Stormwater grant-
    - Applied to retrofit 2 basins: Catbriar Court & Red Fox Court
    - Selected as grant recipient, awaiting more details from DEP
- Tree Ordinance
  - Staff drafting; will circulate for review
- Site Plan Reviews
  - PB-03-23: Harlingen Associates (block 6001 lots 33, 34, 34.01, 35, 35.01, 36)- scheduled for Oct. 23 Planning Board meeting. Discussion on sewer connection.
  - PB-06-23: Sharbell (Block 28009 Lots 1, 2 & 3)
    - Applied for conversion: condos to townhomes
    - Less density, larger setbacks

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- EC comments include requesting more trees, pedestrian paths improvements, lot location, solar
- Correspondence
  - Notice of application for NJDEP General Permit-by-Certification 5 for Bedens Brook Club (Block 31001 Lots 38 & 39) for relocation & expansion of existing pump station, dated 7/25/2023- *Lauren will review if out of flood plain*
  - Notice of application for Treatment Works Approval for BPS (block 28003 lot 211), dated 8/17/2023
  - The Watershed Institute 2023 Impact Report
- Old / New Business
  - Deer management
    - Season started 9/9/2023; 18 deer harvested so far
  - Detention basin at Estates at Montgomery
    - No update
  - Film series collaboration with Franklin EC
    - “Kiss the Ground”
      - Lauren to check the dates
    - “American River” not available until late this year/early 2024
    - Other suggestions – wait until next year
    - Host in Montgomery- in new Meeting Hall
- Upcoming Events
  - October 13: ANJEC Congress, Mercer County College- Kathy Lynch attending
  - October 22: Build your own Scarecrow, Montgomery Veterans Park, 3-5pm
  - October 27-29: Return to Art
  - October 28: Howl-O-Ween at the Farmers Market, 9-12
  - October 28: Trunk or Treat, Montgomery High School, 4-6PM
  - November 1-17: Halloween Candy Donation drop-off for Operation Shoebox NJ, OKCC

**Upcoming meetings:**   October 17 (zoom)  
                                  November 21 (zoom)

Meeting adjourned: 7:54 PM