

MOORESTOWN ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

DATE: Thursday, March 16th, 2023, 7:00 P.M. @ Library Room A.

PRESENT: Joan Ponessa, Chris Salvatico, Henry Balikov, Stephen Jaffe, George Gravenstine, & Barbara Rich. Guests: Susan Gilman (Sustainable Moorestown)

MINUTES: Approved. Moved by Henry and seconded by Barb.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE INVENTORY (ERI): Joan and Chris gave an update on the ERI. The most recent changes to the document have been sent to Mel at DVRPC and Mel and Chris had a follow-up call to discuss them. There will be an updated version sent in the next few days for a final review before it is sent to DVRPC full-review. The schedule for publication is early April.

APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW:

Moorestown Family Apartments PB#2021-33F: Block 7401, Proposed Lot 1.02. Borton Landing Road. The applicant is seeking land use approvals for the construction of a mixed income development consisting of 76 affordable family apartments and 76 market rate units. The project includes a community building, athletic court and playground, stormwater management facilities, landscape buffers and lighting. This application was heard at the March Planning Board meeting. MEAC gave testimony. The application was approved.

McLean Packaging Corp. PB#2022-29: Block 301, Lots 2, 3, 4. 1504 Glen Avenue. The applicant proposes to construct a 52,850 SF industrial building addition, a paved loading area, and associated improvements. MEAC reviewed the most recent set of plans and documents. There will be additional response letters from the Township consultants next week which MEAC will receive a copy. The Planning Board will hear this application on April 6th, 2023. MEAC has the following concerns / questions:

- Are the current plans as shown adequate to accommodate all stormwater for the entire site including the existing structure? The original construction on the plans do not show any SWM.
- It was determined that there is soil contamination on site. A Classification Exception Area (CEA) was established only within the property boundary itself. Has there been any groundwater testing done to determine if any groundwater contamination has migrated off-site?
- The plans mention the need for a variance for the requirement for intervening planting islands of at least 100 SF per 15 parking spaces. According to the March 7th, 2023, Stout & Caldwell response letter to ERI *“Testimony will be provided in support of this variance. The island at the front of the proposed building addition has been relocated to provide a row of 15 spaces and a row of 16 spaces.”* However, MEAC recommends that in any location where the current rule will or cannot be followed that any eliminated planted space be reallocated to other locations on site (around the perimeter as an example). This will provide more pervious surface and aid in SWM.

“YEAR OF THE ENVIRONMENT” AND WATER PROJECTS: Joan and Henry toured the wastewater treatment plant on March 13th, 2023. They were very pleased to hear how organized, efficient, and modern the plant is. The plant is used as a model for other plants in the State as they are an advanced secondary treatment plant with a Level 4 operator. MEAC would like to

assist the plant staff in educating the public on wastewater treatment and how it affects the community. This will include the education of the public on what NOT to dispose of in the sewage system particularly medications and “flushable” wipes. “Forever” chemicals were another topic for discussion and staff spoke of their concerns, but fortunately it does not yet appear to be an issue. Another topic MEAC would like to continue to address are the basins; particularly the recent letters that the Township sent out. Also, MEAC would like to continue to educate the public on the proper disposal of leaves for pick-up. Many residents are putting out leaves too early and locating them too close to the storm drains. MEAC is interested in exploring an ordinance to require the regular maintenance of septic systems. We realize that this is the purview of the County, but perhaps there are steps MEAC can take to assure proper working septic systems within township borders. Finally, MEAC would like to see a redesign of the Annual Township Drinking Water Quality Report to residents. The current style is seen as confusing to some residents.

OPEN SPACE REPORT: Barb reported that there is no news on Trucksess. The Pearson property is waiting for NJDEP appraisal. The children’s education program is going well, but some of the displays have already sustained damage at Swede Run. Barb also mentioned that ANJEC will be holding 4 sessions for Environmental Commissions that MEAC members might be interested in attending.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Susan Gilman who is a member of Sustainable Moorestown gave a status update on Sustainable’s Adopt a Drain program. It is currently still in legal review by the Township.

FUTURE MEETINGS: The next following standard meeting will be scheduled for Thursday April 20th at 7:00 P.M. in a Library meeting room.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 P.M. Moved by Chris and seconded by Steve.

SUBMITTED BY: Chris Salvatico, Secretary.