

# MOORESTOWN ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## Meeting Minutes

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**DATE:** Thursday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 7:00 P.M. @ Virtual MS Teams.

**PRESENT:** Joan Ponessa, Barb Rich, Chris Salvatico, George Gravenstine, Jennifer Otter, Quinton Law, & Nancy Jamanow. Guests: Lisa Petriello & Henry Balikov.

**MINUTES:** Approved. Moved by Barb and seconded by Chris.

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:** *Rt. 38 and South Church Street Improvement Project*. MEAC prepared a letter of comments to be submitted to the project team, but the Township asked us not to submit them as a Committee. Therefore, Joan asked the committee to submit comments individually if they have not already via email to [Route38ChurchStFellowshipRd@gmail.com](mailto:Route38ChurchStFellowshipRd@gmail.com). The comment period ended on April 7<sup>th</sup> so it is unsure if new comments are possible after that date.

**MOORESTOWN STORMWATER ORDINANCE:** On March 25<sup>th</sup> Joan, Chris, Jennifer and Nancy had a call to discuss possible strategies and next steps for improving the Township Stormwater Ordinance to include minor developments. In this call, a suggestion was brought forward where some of the stormwater issues could be solved through the Zoning Board. The idea would be for the Zoning Board to require minor development applicants apply stormwater measurements through the use of a lot coverage variance. If an applicant came before the Board asking for a variance on lot coverage the Board can require the use of a variety of measures to alleviate the extra runoff that would occur. Of course, this method would not catch all possible issues, but it is viewed as a possible first step. The entire Committee discussed the pros and cons of this as well as discuss the continued possibility of amending the Ordinance itself.

In the end, the Committee determined there were three possible ways to proceed which could all occur simultaneously or in combination with one another.

1. Amend the current Stormwater Ordinance to contain language for Minor Developments.
2. Work with the Zoning Board through the application of Lot Coverage Variances.
3. Provide Guidance about Stormwater Management methods in the permit application packages.

Joan had preliminary talks with the Chairperson of the Zoning Board and Nancy will follow-up as well to alert him to our possible intended path.

MEAC was open to the possibility of presenting its case to both the Zoning and Planning Board if it is decided such meetings will further the Committee's goals.

The possibility of amending the current Stormwater Ordinance will continue and the addition of deed restrictions will be considered.

## **APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW:**

**OPEX Corporation. PB#2021-11:** Block 502, Lots 9 & 11, 835 Lancer Drive & 301 Commerce Drive. The applicant proposes to expand the parking area and add SWM facilities. This application will be heard by the Planning Board on May 6<sup>th</sup>. MEAC's comments are as follows: There seemed to be no schedule for reports to be sent to the Township stated in the *Operation and Maintenance Manual for Stormwater Management Facilities* document. Can this be clarified? Also, do we know what is the capacity of the stormwater system in the area?

**Reconstructive Orthopedics. PB#2021-16:** Block 3207, Lot 7, 300 Route 38. Minor site plan with variances. This application will be heard by the Planning Board on May 6<sup>th</sup>. MEAC's comments are as follows: The drainage direction does not seem to be clear on the plans provided. Since this is a building rehab is there an asbestos removal plan? The fountain grasses listed in the planting plan are considered invasive. Can they be replaced by native plantings?

**Lockheed Martin. ZBA#2021-12:** Block 6700, Lot 10, 199 Borton Landing Road. The applicant proposes the addition of two structures as well as SWM detention facilities. This application will be heard by the Zoning Board on May 18<sup>th</sup>. MEAC did not have enough time to review these plans. Since the ZBA meeting will take place before MEAC's next scheduled meeting all comments should be sent to Joan no later than April 26<sup>th</sup>. Early comments are to request the use of Low Impact Development techniques on the project as well as inquire if maintenance has been done on the other existing SWM facilities on site.

**PREVIOUS APPLICATION INFORMATION:** *The Evergreens. ZBA#2020-28* was approved by the Zoning Board.

**BASINS:** Nancy is continuing to review the list from Joan and compare it to the list she has for any discrepancies.

**SWEDES RUN:** Barbara reported that STEM gave a presentation to the Town Council on the project. In the presentation, STEM had agreed to provide some of the financing as well as help coordinate the project. The Town Council was in support and will have a Proclamation in their next meeting. Quinton will email a copy of the Power Point to the entire Committee.

**GUESTS:** Henry Balikov, a member of the Planning Board and former member of MEAC discussed the need for the Town to be more proactive in its dealings with climate change and climate readiness. He stated some important facts and stressed the need for analyzing the current stormwater infrastructure and set a plan for improvement where necessary. He also stressed the importance of Environmental Justice, solar energy and a robust mapping / GIS strategy.

**FUTURE MEETINGS:** The next following standard meeting will be scheduled for Thursday May 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M. on MS Teams.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 P.M. Moved by Barb and seconded by Chris.

**SUBMITTED BY:** Chris Salvatico, Secretary.