

# MOORESTOWN ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## Meeting Minutes

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**DATE:** Thursday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 7:00 P.M. @ Library Room A.

**PRESENT:** Joan Ponessa, Chris Salvatico, Henry Balikov, George Gravenstine, Barbara Rich, Charlie Coriell & Nicole Gillespie.

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

**NEW MEMBER:** The Committee welcomed its newest member, Charles Coriell.

**ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE INVENTORY (ERI):** All the editing has been completed and all that remains is the Director's approval. Nicole asked that Chris send her an email stating that the ERI is ready for Council approval, and she will put it on the August 7<sup>th</sup> Council agenda. After approval DVRPC will produce the printed copies.

### **APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW:**

**353 Crider Avenue PB#2023-24:** Block 701, Lot 3. Crider Avenue. The applicant is proposing to pave 38,199 SF of existing gravel and grass area which will result in a net impervious coverage of 4,175 SF. The existing building, sidewalk, parking lot, loading area, and utilities are all to remain with no change. This application was heard by the Planning Board. There was significant pushback from surrounding residents who were concerned about the flooding issues off the property. The Planning Board charged Environmental Resolutions Inc. (ERI) with conducting a survey to better understand these issues. The application will come back before the Planning Board when the survey results become available.

**92 North Lenola Road (Dominica Foundation, Inc.) PB#2023-26:** Block 100, Lot 1.09. The applicant is seeking preliminary and final site plan approval to permit the construction of 150 townhomes with a 20% set-aside for low- and moderate-income housing. The hard copies and digital copies of the plans were made available to MEAC. Since this project is in the early stages and has not yet been scheduled MEAC and the Appearance Committee will be given the opportunity to meet with the applicants for a discussion (internal advisory meeting). Nicole will inform Joan when that meeting has been set up.

**Other Notices:** MEAC received various notices that do not require action but are for information only. Joan brought these to the meeting for the benefit of the rest of the Committee. The notices included Heritage Village / Parkers Bend (application for sewer system installation), Peartree Court (SF Home driveway), Borton Landing / DL Horton (Court settlement), 1100 North Church Road / Chevron Chemical Company (Notice of completed well testing). 2801 Riverton Drive (NJDEP violation letter).

**CHARTER FOR MEAC:** The committee developed a preliminary set of criteria that both the Planning and Zoning Boards can use when submitting plans for MEAC review. The criteria

developed are as follows and do not apply to single-family residential applications and are not in a particular order:

- All Major project applications should be sent to MEAC for review (major as being defined in current code)
- Any application that has a use or bulk variance that results in a change in surface area perviousness, and / or a change in use that has an environmental aspect to it (i.e., storage / use of chemicals, increase in truck or transport activity, increase in noise, residential to commercial etc.)
- Any application that has a stormwater management element.
- Any application that triggers a Phase II environmental study
- Any application that abuts or affects wetlands, floodplains, waterways, or municipal-owned properties

A motion to accept these criteria was taken with Chris and Henry making motions. The voice vote was unanimous. Joan will submit these criteria to the Planning Board at her earliest convenience. The question arose if the Zoning Board would need the same requirements. Nicole stated that she would investigate the matter and report back to the Committee.

**“YEAR OF THE ENVIRONMENT” AND WATER PROJECTS:** In addition to MEAC’s information campaign about saving water and not flushing old medications and “flushable” wipes, the Committee would like to take an active role in developing next-year’s Water Quality Report. Nicole will investigate what in the report is required to determine how much space would be available for MEAC to use. MEAC will also research what other Township’s WQRs look like so we could possibly emulate them. There was also a discussion about the “Adopt a Drain” program that Sustainable Moorestown is working on.

**OPEN SPACE REPORT:** Barb reported that the State DEP has released new flood hazard rules. Charles volunteered to read through the rules and report his findings to the Committee. Barb also asked about the feasibility of creating an ordinance for Septic Maintenance and one for requiring an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Nicole stated that septic issues are in the purview of the County Health Department, but she would investigate what other Townships are doing. The EIS issue will also be researched.

**COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:** Nicole reported that the Council approved an ordinance and bond issuance appropriating monies for a feasibility study for the implementation of a hydrothermal carbonized sludge processing system at the wastewater treatment plant. That study should be completed in September. MEAC will be given the opportunity to review the results. There was also a resolution of support for a cannabis business to be located on North Lenola Road.

**FUTURE MEETINGS:** The next following standard meeting will be scheduled for Thursday August 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M. in a Library meeting room.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 P.M. Moved by Charles and seconded by Chris.

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