

MEETING MINUTES FOR MARCH 9, 2023

Pompton Lakes Environmental Protection Committee

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE: "In conformance with the Open Public Meetings Law, Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, adequate notice of this Meeting setting forth the time, date, place and purpose of this regular Meeting through notice posted on the Bulletin Board in the Municipal Building, mailed to all who had requested and paid for same, and published in the Suburban Trends.

Called to order – 6:47 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

Member	Present	Excused
Council Liaison, Maria Kent	X	
Chairman, Stephen Baig	X	
Chris Sudol		X
Julie Doncoes	X	
Michael Meeker	X	
Michael Sciacchetano	X	
Bernadette Chillemi	X	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

February 9, 2023

Motion to Approve Minutes: Michael Sciacchetano

Second: Michael Meeker

All in favor

PUBLIC DISCUSSION:

Motion to Open Meeting to Public: Steven Baig

Second: Bernadette Chillemi

All in favor

In Attendance:

Phillip Toussaint, CEO - Co-Founder of Ecopreneur Media, was in attendance. He has participated in our last couple of clean ups and he wants to see if he can help promote our projects and initiatives.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Open Space

Michael Meeker advised that the Open Space Committee discussed Phase II for Hershfield. The OS Committee discussed future planning and to think about what new projects could be designed. Still waiting on DEP approval for Willow Field project. Committee is to determine what else can be done at Lakeside Park and Hershfield.

2. Recycling Center Tour

The EPC committee will reach out to the recycling center to see if we can schedule a tour for April – possibly Saturday April 15th. Maria Kent advised that Brush will be starting April 13th and 14th.

3. River Clean Up (May 7th)

- a) Philip spoke about the free volunteer platform that partners with and engages volunteers in the community and offers rewards i.e. sustainable swag. We can put the River Clean up date on their platform. They also work with town officials and guidance counselors at local schools. Maria Kent advised that any children younger than 18 needs an adult present.

Motion to move ahead with Ecopreneur: Steven Baig

Second: Michael Sciacchetano

- b) Michael Meeker to review the map locations from last year to determine what areas we might need to add or remove from the list.

- c) Steven Baig asked Michael Meeker to get an email blast out to all past contacts. Will work on getting the word out to Riverdale, Pequannock, Wayne and Oakland. It was also discussed to reach out to the BOE in order to get on the agenda to get the word out to the school districts and speak about the River Clean Up. It was also discussed to reach out to News Channel 12, advertise on the local radio station, and channel 77. Karen Murphy will add it to the library board.

- d) Need to obtain insurance certificate through the Borough's new Risk Insurance, Otterstead insurance as we need a special rider for the cleanup. Maria Kent will provide Steven Baig with the contact information.

- e) Columbia Bank donated 100 black bags and made a \$750 donation. Gene Hoffman will be in attendance and will bring a group of volunteers.

Motion to put "Sponsored by Columbia Bank" on t-shirts: Michael Sciacchetano

Second: Steven Baig.

Motion to order Red Shirts with White lettering: Steven Baig

Second: Michael Sciacchetano

All in favor.

Will utilize funds from Clean Communities to order pizza. It was discussed to order 10 pies from Tony's and 10 pies from Franks. Michael Sciacchetano ordered t-shirts for committee volunteers and they should be in next week. The DPW will provide gloves, garbage bags, masks and hand wipes. Michael

Sciacchetano will ask BID and the Rotary Club for donation. Steve Columbo will print the t-shirts.

4. Lake Report

The Borough is expecting to use a different company to test and treat Lakeside and Twin Lakes. The company will be sending a proposal to Paula. Need a temporary budget and needs a resolution. Solitude will not be retained. Hoping to get started in April. The company is on the state vendor list. The EPC needs a contact person to review the reports. Motion to appoint Bernadette Chillemi as the contact person to receive/review reports: Steven Baig
Second: Michael Sciacchetano

5. Working with B.I.D. on Littering

EPC to ask to be put on the next agenda and we will invite them to our meeting as well.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Next Year's River Clean Up (May 5, 2024)

Motion to set May 5, 2024 as next year's River Clean Up Date: Steven Baig
Second: Bernadette Chillemi
All in favor

2. Survey Committee

Organize committee to see what areas need receptacles. Steven Baig to get list together of public town facilities and parks. Maria Kent suggested to obtain such list from the Borough's insurance company. Table to next meeting

3. Composting Project - table to next meeting.

4. Take the Pledge

Put out 10 signs for the Take the Pledge. Months should run from May through September. Starts right before river cleanup and ends after Pompton Day. Karen Murphy mentioned that we might be able to add Take the Pledge to Capture Point.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Randy Hinton spoke about Spotted Lantern flies. Egg clusters will start forming and we are to remove them now. It was discussed putting information on Channel 77. Julie Doncoes asked Randy Hinton to speak at the Trails Committee meeting scheduled for March 19th.

Maria Kent spoke about Dr. Emile DeVito and his presentation on deer control. She suggested to the EPC that Dr. DeVito make a presentation during public session through the EPC or before the council meeting. Julie Doncoes suggested the EPC find out how long the presentation is. Should EPC sponsor it? Steven Baig suggested the EPC make contact with Dr. DeVito to hear presentation for educational purposes.

Motion to contact Dr. DeVito to hear presentation for educational purposes: Michael Sciacchetano
Second: Michael Meeker

Motion to Close Meeting to Public: Stephen Baig
Second: Michael Sciacchetano

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to Adjourn: Mike Meeker
Second: Michael Sciacchetano

Meeting Adjourned: 8:19 pm.

Prepared and submitted by:
Bernadette Chillemi
Bernadette Chillemi, PLEPC Secretary