

WTEAC Minutes November 21, 2019

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Meeting opened under the Sunshine Law at 7:07 p.m.

Attendance (Roll Call) by Secretary Ellen Smith

Present: Chairperson Wilma Morrissey, Vice Chair Bob Kilmurray, Secretary Ellen Smith, Hance Sitkus, John Ozell and Joe Balesterri.

Absent: Township Committeeman Tim Farrell, Scott Burke and Greg Wolek.

Motion for September minutes. Motion: Bob Kilmurray 2nd: Ellen Smith

Motion for October minutes. Motion: Joe Balesterri 2nd John Ozell

Sustainable Jersey Projects: Wilma let members know who to contact for their respective actions. In the Municipal Building it's Kate Kohri, Assistant Business Administrator and in Public Works it's Tarin Rhoades.

Green Business Recognition Program: Several names were discussed. Dr. Garrow and The Atlantic Club will be contacted. We are planning to hold the ceremony at our December meeting.

Bob Fisher will do his presentation "The Importance of Wastewater Treatment" at the Intermediate School on November 26th at 1:30PM. Only Wilma, Bob & Tim will attend as space is limited.

Monmouth County Environmental Council Roundtable on Plastics: Bob attended with Wilma.

Whole Foods has a "stretch plastic" recycling program in partnership with Trex: <http://www.trex.com/> Stretch plastic or film plastic is any thin stretch plastic that you can stretch or put your finger through. This includes plastic shopping bags, dry clean bags, bubble wrap, and plastic found around cases of products. When this material is clean and dry, it has a value to companies like Trex who are able to make a plastic decking out of it. There are more plastics in the ocean than fish.

When recyclables are contaminated with food, the whole lot ends up in the landfill. Food must not be included with the recyclables, including and especially pizza boxes. Wall recycles #1 and #2 pourable recyclables. #'s 3 & 4 are coming soon. India, Vietnam and China accept our recyclables.

Coast Star Nature Trail Article: Wilma wants to make sure the trail is clear after the latest storm before putting the article into the newspaper.

The Wall High School Environmental Club would like Wilma to address the club.

Election of officers. The existing slate was re-elected. Motion: Hance Sitkus 2nd John Ozell Wilma Morrissey is the Chairwoman, Bob Kilmurray is the Vice-Chair and Ellen Smith is the Secretary.

WTEAC Shirt update. We are still waiting to hear from RKE.

Interpretive Signs: Joe Lentini said we have a new sign maker. We're waiting to see if the sign can be made by the town. Wilma forwarded him the information. Both the Sustainable Jersey and ANJEC grants were denied and therefore both organizations will not pay for the sign. We can apply again in the next Sustainable Jersey round for a grant.

Brochure "Facts on Single Plastic Bags - Choose Reusable bags" was posted on the web site.

We are up for a Governor's 'Environmental Excellence Award. Winners will be notified in late November or early December. However, they suggest keeping the date of December 9th open for all 50 nominees as the award ceremony will be held in Trenton on that date.

An email list was suggested to get volunteers for garden maintenance, etc. We could add that to the Wall Website. John suggested that we have email blasts with environmental info.

Wilma suggested that we do an Email Newsletter each month titled "Environmentally Yours" written by members of our Committee. The initial startup date will be January 2020.

Hance brought up a plastic bag ban. At Allaire State park they eliminated trash barrels 20 years ago. Plastic bags are provided for a "Carry in- Carry out policy. Dog waste stations also provide plastic bags. Education should be the first step.

Wilma suggested having a Round Table regarding plastic pollution. Perhaps have some speakers as well as the High School Environmental Club.

Handouts: Monmouth County Planning Board calendar for November events.
Green Business Recognition Program brochure/application
Letter from Sandy Jarvis regarding Whole Foods.
Handout by email: "The Problem With Plastics Oct 29 presentation.

Adjournment 8:58PM Motion: Hance Sikus 2nd :Bob Kilmurray