

## FAIR HAVEN ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

AGENDA for July 21, 2021 at 7:30 pm via Zoom

1. Call to Order @ 7:33pm
2. Sunshine Law Notice – Krystie Larsen, Borough Liason
3. Roll Call: Ralph Wyndrum, Jessie Murray, Patrick Keeler, Kelly Flanagan, Greg Wright, Councilwoman Laline Neff

**Absent:** Brian Rice, Sarah Bayer, Gary Patterson, Jonathan Peters

2 public attendees.

R. Wyndrum asked K. Larsen to compile commission member attendance for 2021 to ensure members are attending 70% of meetings.

4. Pledge of Allegiance
5. Approval of June Meeting Minutes - Ayes by all to approve the minutes
6. Current Business
  - A. Sustainable New Jersey Project (status of recertification) / Green Team (Kelly)

K. Flanagan has been meeting weekly with the Sustainable Jersey Fellow (Karen), Parks and Rec Director DJ Breckenridge and Councilman McCue to discuss and help with priority actions. The Borough will be receiving a energy tracking and management system worth 20 points. Utility bills from NJNG and JCP&L go into a database to track and separate the four Borough buildings energy usage. The two buildings being knocked down have the least energy efficiency. In order to obtain a priority action, Sustainable Jersey requests a Borough employee to be trained by the Fellow to continue their work of data input of utility bills and online management, approximately one hour a month. K. Flanagan and Councilwoman Neff to discuss with Borough Administrator. R. Wyndrum suggested they should also track the meter and tie it to the function it supports, to determine which activities generate the most energy usage in Borough Hall.

The second action, worth 10 points, is a fleet vehicle inventory. Fair Haven is part of NJSEM aggregate renewable energy group. Fair Haven has group purchase for renewable energy for town, but can we offer it to residents? Councilwoman Neff would like to know the process and documentation. K. Flanagan would like to come up with a contract with a local energy supplier. R. Wyndrum noted that a couple years ago they looked into a private supplier for this (wind power, etc), but the cost was 5-7% higher than JCP&L. K. Flanagan is looking into this.

Together, the energy tracking and fleet inventory will yield Fair Haven's carbon footprint data. Direct updates available: 2 programs to replace existing equipment to upgrade to a "smart start" building or rebates available for new construction. Contractor would fill out the specs, can apply before installation. Perhaps "pay to plug" for electric vehicles down the line.

Sustainable Jersey advises to partner with the school district for greater economies of scale, specific to solar and thermal energy sources. Thermal energy makes sense for Police Department building because it has showers. There are also actions with Sustainable Jersey for historic upgrades/preservations for Bicentennial Hall. R. Wyndrum has not looked at Bic Hall plans, but advises committee members to do so. He has already discussed with Borough Engineer Gardella and Administrator Casagrande the need for the trees to be protected and ADA compliant at the same time. Councilwoman Neff commented that the plans were shown at the last Council meeting- she doesn't believe the interior plans are finalized, but the exterior is; she urged commission members to come to the next Council meeting 7/26 and contact Facilities chair Mike McCue with concerns. R. Wyndrum suggested indenting the curb on the block, angular parking and possibly shared parking with neighboring businesses with different operational hours could be a solution to save the trees, which are needed for stormwater management. He believes the Borough may be required to have three disabled parking spots, but can possibly reduce the number of spots overall.

R. Wyndrum invited all Green Team members to the September meeting at Borough Hall.

B. LED street lights (Ralph)

JCP&L has been telling R. Wyndrum the LED street lights are coming, but the street arms need to be custom made and nothing is happening yet. In September, if the issue is not resolved, R. Wyndrum suggested sending a letter to the regional director of JCP&L to encourage doing it in the next few weeks.

C. Navesink River (Brian)

B. Rice absent. R. Wyndrum commented the dead fish fill has ceased. However, the river in the last two weeks has been black, not sure why; typically this time of year it is green due to underwater plants.

D. Town Recycling (Ralph)

R. Wyndrum noted town recycling is more than half of total. Mazza facility is impressive in single stream recycling; mechanical and manual by employees. Resident sticker and magnet drive: will Borough pay for materials? Distribution method: mail or delivery? Volunteer or Green Team distribution? Perhaps use neighborhood captains like PTA or Dermer Dreams. Can leave out at community event like HarvestFest and at Borough Hall. Piggy-back on a Borough mailing like calendars. Stickers are \$0.67 and magnets are \$1.00.

E. Residential Stormwater Ordinance (Brian/Kelly/Gary/Jessie)

B. Rice (absent) is planning to discuss with Planning and Zoning. Table issue until September.

F. Town Solar (Kelly/Laline)

K. Flanagan said Sustainable Jersey advised partnering with schools to gain greater economies of scale. Our Fellow is also working with the schools this summer. It was suggested to reach out to other developers who combined town and school solar and thermal energy efficiencies. R. Wyndrum said acres would be preserved by putting panels on buildings vs. power fields. G. Wright said it is expensive to put panels on roofs and they are not for every structure. There are two power fields nearby: Holmdel and

Tinton Falls. They are not expensive and can be more efficient if they are cleaned more frequently. Councilwoman Neff would like to raise awareness of solar energy and suggested residents need to be educated on the process and feasibility – perhaps at someone's home with solar panels.

#### G. McCarter Pond

Action item: R. Wyndrum will speak with Administrator Casagrande and the Mayor regarding this agenda item. He thought Council was going for bonding for the project, but has not seen any information. Green Team member Bonnie Torcivia volunteered to research the possibility of using technology in the pond. R. Wyndrum believes the only solution is hydraulic raking. Councilwoman Neff asked if fertilizers used in pond would affect nearby residents and if fertilizer is creating the deterioration. R. Wyndrum said fertilizer is not as effective as hydraulic ranking.

#### 7. New Business

##### A. August 18 Meeting: in person? Zoom?

Unanimous vote to cancel August 18 meeting. Next meeting will be September 15 in person at Borough Hall. R. Wyndrum would like to continue meetings both on Zoom and in-person, but there are current technical issues in the Council Chambers – will continue to look for an in person plus virtual participation solution.

#### 8. Council Update (Laline)

Councilwoman Neff sought the opinion of the EC and Green Team on bamboo: is there a policy or ordinance on invasive species? K. Larsen to check with Borough Clerk on this item. R. Wyndrum said residents with issues should contact the Police Department for a nuisance complaint.

Councilwoman Neff sought the opinion of the EC and Green Team on the Borough's potential purchase of the property adjacent to Fair Haven Dock. R. Wyndrum said that is an economic/Council issue and there is no comment from the EC unless the property is actually acquired.

#### 9. Public Comments

No public comments.

#### 10. Adjournment @ 8:55pm

Next Meeting September 15, 7:30pm @ Borough Hall.



**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT, PUBLIC MEETINGS MAY BE HELD IN PERSON OR BY MEANS OF COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT TO INCLUDE STREAMING SERVICES AND OTHER ONLINE MEETING PLATFORMS (NJSA 10:4-8(b)).**

**DUE TO THE COVID-19 SITUATION, THE BOROUGH OF FAIR HAVEN'S MUNICIPAL FACILITIES ARE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC. THIS MEETING IS BEING PRESENTED THROUGH THE ZOOM MEETING PLATFORM AND BEING BROADCAST FROM BOROUGH HALL, 748 RIVER ROAD, FAIR HAVEN, NJ. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FOR THIS ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING OF JULY 21, 2021 IS AVAILABLE BY CALL IN PHONE NUMBER OR THROUGH WEB CONFERENCE (ZOOM).**

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WILL BE ON MUTE UNTIL THE PORTION FOR PUBLIC QUESTIONS/COMMENTS, WHICH WILL BE ANNOUNCED. AT THAT TIME THE PUBLIC HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO QUESTION/COMMENT BY PHONE OR THROUGH ZOOM BY THE "RAISE HAND" BUTTON AND WILL BE CALLED ON AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME.**

**NOTICE OF THIS MEETING WAS INCLUDED IN A SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS SENT TO THE ASBURY PARK PRESS, THE TWO RIVER TIMES, THE HUB AND THE STAR LEDGER ON JANUARY 28, 2021, POSTED ON THE BOROUGH WEBSITE, THE BULLETIN BOARD IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND HAS REMAINED CONTINUOUSLY POSTED AS REQUIRED UNDER THE STATUTE.**

**WITH ADEQUATE NOTICE HAVING BEEN GIVEN, THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION SECRETARY IS DIRECTED TO INCLUDE THIS STATEMENT IN THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING.**