

Matawan Environmental Commission

Meeting Minutes
February 9, 2021

The regular meeting of the Matawan Environmental Commission was called to order at 7:15pm on February 9, 2021 by Commission Chair Daniel Wieczorek.

I. Meeting Attendance

a. Present

Commission Members

Daniel Wieczorek (chair)
Ginny Sanzo
Meredith Comi
Malini Guha
Adam Fernandez
Anthony Washington
Sharen LaPorta
John Lazar – Council Chair

Associate Members

Diane Doolittle
Michele Devanny
Dan Carroll

b. Absent

c. Guests

Ananya Joshi
Joe Reynolds – NY/NJ Baykeeper
Maria Milazzo

II. Review and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

a. Meeting Minutes of January 12, 2021 - APPROVED

III. Osprey Platform

- a. Joe Reynolds from NY/NJ Baykeeper (and his non-profit *Save Coastal Wildlife*) joined the meeting to discuss the installation of an osprey platform in Matawan
- b. Possible location: between Ravine Drive and Aberdeen Road along the creek. Would be able to see from the future Burrowes-Forman Path
- c. One caveat to be aware of: platform cannot be installed near trees, as the greatest predators of ospreys are great horned owls, which is why ospreys prefer to nest in the open
- d. Joe going to investigate the area to see if and where viable options would be, as well as access points for installing the platform
- e. Platforms go up during low tide, early in the morning and on a weekend. Takes about 60-90 minutes
- f. Early March is the preferred installation window to be ahead of osprey activity, then hopefully the platform will be active on 1-2 years, otherwise in may take up to 5 to 6 years for it to become active.

IV. NRI/Budget Status/Update

- a. No new news, Matawan's budget meeting has not been held yet

V. Green Team

- a. Commission Members – bring names and ideas for members of the green team
- b. Members will create a Google doc – “Green Team Strategic Plan
- c. An invite letter will be drafted, then customized for each invitee

- VI. Community Clean-up
- a. Potential schedule dates will be either Saturday, April 17 (with Sunday the 18th as rain date) or Saturday, April 24 (with Sunday the 25th as rain date). Will not be held prior, in consideration of Passover, Palm Sunday and Easter
 - b. General meeting place will more than likely be shifted to Borough Hall
- VII. Community Garden
- a. No report
- VIII. Reports on Affiliate Organizations
- a. Matawan Town Council (John)
 - Passed the stormwater ordinance provision at last council meeting
 - Dan requested a copy of the ordinance passed by Matawan – the Borough ordinance follows the minimal provisions as issued by the state
 - No movement on the Burrowes-Forman nature path but will be forthcoming as the weather improves
 - Introduced Maria Milazzo, local artist. She created a Matawan coloring book and has interest in creating in more books to recognize Matawan environment/wildlife
 - b. Planning Board (Sharen)
 - No report
- IX. Open Floor
- John Lazar: Due to a new hauler contract (B and B), garbage pick up will be changing from Fridays to Mondays, starting February 11; recycling schedule will remain the same
 - Recycling Calendar was finalized 2/9 for publication on Borough website and future mailing
 - John Lazar will look into making sure the Recycle Coach app has the updated collection schedule
- X. Adjournment
- Meeting was adjourned at 8:09pm by Commission Chair Daniel Wiczorek. The next general meeting will be held virtually at 7:00pm on March 9, 2021.

Meeting Link: <https://meet.google.com/yyu-gnat-azt>