

Matawan Environmental Commission November 10, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Present:

Daniel Wieczorek (Commission Chair)
Meredith Comi
Adam Fernandez
Malini Guha
Anthony Washington
Michele Devanny
Diane Doolittle
John Lazar (Council Chair)

Absent:

Ginny Sanzo
Sharen LaPorta
Dan Carroll

Guests:

None

Meeting was an Open Discussion of the Following Topics

Community Garden Meeting

John gave an update on the meeting. There were a lot of opinions and ideas about what a community garden is/should be. Those interested in developing a community garden in Matawan should join the Matawan Community Garden Facebook page. This page provides resources on community gardens and a poll for residents to fill out.

Tony: contact Barrett's Tree Service for wood chips

Dan: Aberdeen and Middletown recycling centers for mulch supply

Green Team

Dan: suggested MEC hold a dedicated green team meeting in the early New Year. Examples of successful green teams that Matawan can model a green team after can be discussed (check ANJEC for resources). Members of the green team should include representatives from all of Matawan's commissions along with the Mayor, EMS, and DEP.

Clean Up

Mer and Tony will look into having a community "clean up". Details of when and how need to be worked out, but the idea is that residents of Matawan will collect garbage on their own and DPW will pick it up. Residents can submit photos to the Facebook page. Try and make it a fun virtual experience. Can it be made into a "contest"?

Question: What are Clean Communities and other towns currently doing during covid? Mer check with Will from Clean Communities.

Burrowes – Forman Path Update

Clearing is done. Next steps include an engineering study.

Upcoming Budget Meeting

John and Dan will discuss the MEC budget with Scott. The #1 priority and main budget item will be the NRI, which will cost approximately \$15,000.

Plastic Bags Bill

New law was passed. MEC can provide guidance and educate town businesses and residents.

Appointing Students to the MEC

John will reach out to Louise Tomesello to get the process started. All commission members are in agreement that the spots will be offered to Matawan students first.

Other business: Lids for trash cans/recycling cans to reduce the amount of waste that gets left behind after pickup, especially after a windy day.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meredith Comi