



Meeting Agenda - Red Bank Environmental Commission

Location: 90 Monmouth Street, 1st Floor, Council Chambers
Date: January 7, 2025
Time: 7:00pm - 8:30pm

LAST	FIRST	TITLE	ATTENDANCE
Rodriguez Heyman	Paulo	RBEC Member (Chair)	Y
Godek-Johnson	Denelle	RBEC Member (Vice-Chair)	Y
Almerini	Ana	RBEC Member (Secretary)	Y
Johnson	Dave	RBEC Member	Y
Leder	Jenna	RBEC Member	N
Martin	Traver	RBEC Member	N
Schroder	Alix	RBEC Member	Y
Massey	Megan	RBEC Alternate #1 (Planning Board Liaison)	Y
Carlin	Scott	RBEC Alternate #2	N
Blyskun	Helena	Green Team Member	N
Hunnewell	Chuck	Green Team Member	N
McArthur	E. Pamela	Green Team Member	N
Sala	Luisa	Green Team Member	N
Wokas	Eric	Green Team Member	Y
Salinas	Oscar	Green Team Member (Parks & Rec)	N
Walton	Terrence	Green Team Member (DPU)	N
Facey-Blackwood	Nancy	RBEC Liaison to the Council	Y

Agenda Details:

1. Attendance
2. Review/approve last month's meeting minutes; remit to Borough Clerk
 - a. Dave motioned to approve
 - b. Alix seconded
3. Public/Guest Comment
 - a. Mary Warner from the Animal Welfare Committee
 - i. Intent to promote rewilding homes instead of grass - National Wildlife Federation-certified



- ii. Active work happening in Highlands, Belmar, Lake Como, etc. John in Lake Como is willing to share his work - Rutgers Master Gardener and former Lake Como EC Chair
 - 1. "Teaching garden" could be the ideal way to go to share with kids
- iii. Goal: Applying for a \$20,000 grant for Quiet Red Bank, that could make sense for this type of work, i.e. sustainable lawn care
- iv. Sustainable Lawns tour potential? 52 certified homes in Red Bank - could be an Earth Day option - maybe a tour and ranking
- v. Needs: Water for birds, food, habitat, etc.
 - 1. Next steps: Mary will meet with John to discuss the project and how John can our work
 - 2. Denelle/Jenna will be the point of contact
- b. Sal Trifiro - applying to be a member of the Green Team
- 4. Current Initiatives - Round Robin
 - a. Updates from Liaisons
 - i. Council (Nancy Blackwood)
 - 1. ERI is going before the planning board on Jan 8th to determine if it will be amended to the master plan
 - a. Paulo to send an update with correct EC members
 - 2. See my legacy - allows the creation of volunteer events and community engagement, Adriana the community engagement coordinator will connect with EC
 - 3. EC does have \$1,500 to use - we can get shirts, maybe
 - a. Considering using for Green Fair, April 10th
 - 4. New Borough Clerk - Mary Moss
 - ii. Planning Board (Megan Massey)
 - 1. Last time the planning board met was in September
 - b. ~Admin
 - i. Terms were renewed below for 2025:
 - Paulo is considering a two-year term limit for his Chair position - his term will end July 2025 - Denelle motioned to approve
 - Denelle to be vice chair - Paulo motioned to approve
 - Ana to be secretary - Dave motioned to approve
 - 1. Paulo
 - 2. Jenna
 - 3. Travers - moved to Green Team
 - 4. Alix
 - 5. Scott
 - 6. Luisa will be RBEC alternate #2
 - c. ERI
 - d. Green Fair (April 10th from 5-7pm)
 - i. Time to start subcommittee



1. Denelle created 2025 spreadsheet
 - ii. The entire EC should plan to be there, but there should be a core team of ~3 people
 1. Potential gas-powered leaf blower table to hear the noise difference in gas and electric
 - iii. Denelle will reach out to Lauren to try to get seedlings
 1. Wildflower seeds
 2. We could consider asking Colonial Nursery
 - iv. Subcommittee: Contact tablers, coordinating with Red Bank Middle School
 - v. Potential to have a "competition" for STEM projects
 1. Local businesses to donate prizes
 - vi. Sal - Can teach about rain barrels and about trees
- Denelle to send an email for the kickoff meeting

EC Goals for 2025:

- Native Plant Ordinance
 - Encourage opportunities and alternate ideas to share so that each person contributes
 - Potential idea: Determine spend per household for the borough to remove leaves, which could be used as a grant opportunity.
 - Would it make sense to instead provide a composter to homeowners?
 - Leaves could be a good entry point, less intense than home composting
 - Could we coordinate a Red Bank cleaning day for the Spring?
 - Consider making an educational component for Sustainable Jersey - could encourage involvement with middle school so they can get points
 - Sponsor a storm drain
 - Potential to apply for a grant
 - Sustainable lawns initiatives
 - e. Website Updates
 - i. Skip the stuff ordinance is live
 - ii. Other initiatives we should add?
 - f. Grants
 - i. Existing Grants
 1. Paulo is determining how to utilize \$20k grant for the gas-powered leaf blowers
 2. Little Silver is hosting an event on January 12th at 1pm about leaf blowers
 - ii. Ideas for New Grants
5. Conclusion:
- a. Motion to close - Ana, Alix Seconded
 - b. Next Meeting Date/Time: February 4, 2025; 7:00pm to 8:30pm