

**GLEN ROCK ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

Municipal Building, Harding Plaza, Glen Rock, NJ 07452

**MINUTES Meeting of January 16, 2019**

Ben Meyer (P)	Laura Occhipinti (P)	Candace Lynch (A)
Lesley Elton (P)	Sylvia Rabacchi (P)	Arati Kreibich (liaison Council) (P)
Scott King (P)	Ann Marie Brennan (P)	

**(P)-Present, (A)-Absent**

**Alternates:** Ken Jones (P), Sarah Froikin-Gordon (P)

**Green Team:** Jessica Caron

**Guests:** Glen Rock Dog Park committee (Linda Brennan)

**Call to Order**

**Site Plan Review** – None to report

**Planning Board Report**

**Public Comment** –

<b>Agenda Topic/Owner</b>	<b>Key Points</b>	<b>Next Action Steps</b>
Minutes approval	Minutes of December 17, 2018 meeting to be approved.	Minutes approved
<b><u>FEATURE TOPICS:</u></b>  SJ grants	Evaluate proposals for SJ grant applications: climate action plan, Bergen hub food waste drop spot pilot program, rain garden, doggy park solar panel canopy	Sylvia handed out a short list of criteria put together by GREC as guidelines for grant evaluation (Minutes from December 2018). Linda from the Dog park Committee presented their proposal for grant to fund eco-friendly features to add to the doggy part after phase 1 (=construction) is completed. Construction will start in spring 2019 and they expect to be ready for phase 2 in summer/fall. The eco-friendly features presented are: a methane digester to convert the dog droppings into methane, a solar charging station for cell phones/electronics, and potentially a solar canopy to generate electricity. GREC Commissioners comments included the suggestion to produce a more detailed grant proposal, that includes quotes/prices for equipment and installation, and a description of the specific benefits of the proposed equipment, how they will be used (ie if methane is produced, how is that going to be used?), how it will be managed in terms of maintenance (does the digester need to be emptied of left overs?), size to be proportionate to our specific uses, as well as highlighting the impact on the general sustainability goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions or other relevant scopes.

		<p>Particular interest was communicated to Linda for a solar panel canopy that can be connected to the grid and can generate green electricity and a potential revenue to the borough.</p> <p>GREC will be happy to discuss the Doggy Park's proposal again in the near future once the additional information becomes available.</p>
<p><b><u>UPDATES:</u></b></p> <p>Plastic bags/ Lesley, Froikin-Gordon, Rabacchi, Occhipinti</p>	<p>Update on plastic bag ordinance draft. Research issues with definition/use of reusable bags. Survey for businesses, outreach plan for residents</p>	<p>As we work on an ordinance draft we will research the issue encountered by California where after the law banning single-use plastic bags passed they observed a large amount of plastic reusable bags used as single –use bags and disposed of. We are going to research possible solutions to this issue and consider a better description of reusable, potentially by increasing the thickness of a reusable bag, and setting a high fee that would discourage the consumer for disposing of them and encourage consumers to reuse. With the same goals we are planning to include a small fee for paper bags (~10c). A rough draft for an ordinance will be prepared and discussed at the February meeting. Goal is to present to the council in the early Spring. Jessica will help us analyze the businesses surveys taken by Laura and the fall interns, and produce graphs.</p>
<p>EV charging stations/ Meyer, Jones</p>	<p>Progress report. Interns/volunteers for weekly meter readings to monitor use</p>	
<p>Make your town EV and solar friendly /Jones, Meyer, Froikin Gordon</p>	<p>Amend zoning ordinance to provide electric outlets for new multi-unit building constructions. Evaluate how to best promote solar panel installation with new constructions and roof replacements.</p>	<p>Mayor has suggested an initial meeting with the borough building inspector and secretary, to discuss the proposal. After the discussion, Scott suggests to prepare an ordinance draft to present to mayor and council.</p> <p>Master plan may be re-examined in 2019, and may take ~6-8months for completion: opportunity for GREC to recommend ideas regarding EV charging and solar panel installation and other sustainable practices to be included. We hope to be able to include recommendations from the future Climate Action Plan if timing allows.</p>
<p>DEAL (Disc. Energy Aggregation)/ Jones</p>	<p>Update on DEAL new RFP planned for end of January</p>	
<p>GRPVC Report/Kreibich</p>	<p>Green Infrastructures program - collaboration with Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission and Rutgers University</p>	<p>Arati is trying to set up a phone call to get their expert opinion on major stormwater and run-off issues related to the arboretum and Diamond brook entering then the Passaic river.</p>
<p>Green team and Spring Interns program/</p>	<p>2019 year of air and water</p>	<p>GREC will apply for the \$2,000 2019 PSEG grant cycle to fund a rain garden, which would satisfy part of</p>

Occhipinti		the requirements of the collaboration with Rutgers on Green infrastructure. Location still undecided: library too shady, Memorial field does not have a water source to get the garden started. Pool location still a possibility: sunny, water can be collected through a rain barrel connected to the roof.
Residential Drop Spot Composting program/Rabacchi	SJ Bergen Hub grant application for Food waste drop spot pilot program	Glen Rock, Ridgewood and Wyckoff will apply for the 2019 PSEG grant cycle (\$20,000) as a joint grant application. Ridgewood will be the fiscal agent since Glen Rock already has other grants on-going and applying for.
GR Farmers Market /Froikin, Lynch	Discussion.	Contract under review by Boro Attorney and GRFM Sub-Committee. Website has been launched: <a href="https://www.glenrockfarmersmarket.org/">https://www.glenrockfarmersmarket.org/</a> and the GRATM Sub-Committee started to collect applications for the market.
<b>New Business</b>	<b>Key Points</b>	
Faber field/ Brennan, Jones	Recreation Advisory Board (RAB) update, tracking issues at the Faber fields. Opportunity to meet with the new Engineer at the next RAB meeting Tue, Febr 12.	GREC will send 2-3 members to the meeting on Febr. 12 where the newly hired Engineer will be introduced.
GREC awards/Occhipinti	Placement of awards received by GREC	Location agreed upon on the hallway to the right of the entrance (SJ panel with three plaques reflecting GREC past certifications, 2012, 2015, and 2018), ANJEC Achievement Award for work on Plastic Pollution. Mayor award for Leadership in Sustainability may be in Mayor's office
Assemblywoman invitation/Jones	Invite assemblywoman Lisa Swain, member of the Environment and Solid Waste state committee, to a future GREC meeting	
GREC members	GREC members swearing in	Ben, Scott, Ken and Sara were sworn in January: Ben and Scott (liaison to the Planning board) as Commissioners, Ken as Alternate #1 and Sara as GREC Alternate #2. The Commission is now complete with 7 commissioners and 2 alternates.

**Adjournment: 9:20pm**