



MEETING MINUTES

Jersey City Environmental Commission
City Hall – 280 Grove Street, Jersey City NJ 07302

Alison Cucco, Acting Chair

Meeting: Jersey City Environmental Commission Public Meeting

Date / Location: 18 April 2017– 6:30 p.m.
Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, City Hall, 280 Grove Street, Jersey City, NJ 07302

Attendees: **Commissioners/City
Representatives**

Alison Cucco, Acting Chair
Allison Solowsky
Mario Verdibello
Greg Lanez
Lucas Netchert
Takeya Meggett
Michele Luebke
Gabriel Ristorucci

Kate Lawrence, Secretary

Public Participants

Jeff Reaves, Dresdner Robin

Doug Newman, Director of
Environmental Sciences, Dresdner
Robin

Aleksandr Osenenko , Student from
St. Peters

Prepared By: Allison Solowsky, Katherine Lawrence

Date Prepared: 8 May 2017

ROLL CALL

Eight of the eight active commissioners were present; four constitutes quorum.

SUNSHINE ANNOUNCEMENT

Secretary Lawrence confirmed the sunshine announcement went out Monday, April 17th.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

No other comments from commissioners. March minutes stand approved as corrected.

VOTE TO ADOPT RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR SUSTAINABLE OPEN SPACE, FARMLAND, HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND STEWARDSHIP FUNDING FOR NEW JERSEY and RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CLEAN WATER SUPPLIES

- Commissioner Cucco stated that the resolutions being presented were forwarded to her by the Highlands Coalition and they both originated by ANJEC. The Highlands Coalition is requesting that we adopt the two resolutions.

- Commissioner Netchert made a motion to adopt the Resolution in Support of Sustainable Open Space, Farmland, Historic Preservation and Stewardship Funding for New Jersey. Commissioner Ristorucci seconded the motion. Eight commissioners voted for, zero voted against, zero abstained, the motion carried.
- Commissioner Luebke made a motion to adopt the Resolution in Support of Clean Water Supplies. Commissioner Meggett seconded the motion. Eight commissioners voted for, zero voted against, zero abstained, the motion carried.

SCHEDULED SPEAKERS: Jeff Reeves, Dresdner Robin

- Mr. Jeff Reeves discussed the remediation plans for lots 79 and 80 along Mill Creek and Jersey Avenue.
- There will be 2 phases to this project, the first of which begins this summer. Mr. Reeves was in attendance to discuss the first phase which consists of removing the contaminated soil, trucking it off site, and bringing in clean material.
- Mr. Doug Newman, the Director of Environmental Sciences at Dresdner Robin, was also in attendance. He stated that the soil will be replaced with clean material from 180 Baldwin and it has been approved by the DEP. The clean material will be mounded into two temporary piles.
- The piles are a prelude to the future development of the site. There has been no approval from DEP yet for phase 2.
- Commissioner Luebke asked what the setback requirement is. Mr. Reeves stated that there is no requirement.
- Secretary Lawrence asked where 180 Baldwin is and why is the material from that site being utilized. Mr. Reeves stated there was a factory on the site of 180 Baldwin that was removed and the owner hired a remediation company to recycle the material. He stated that the material is well graded and can be reused.
- Commissioner Cucco asked if water will flow through the site from the creek and if flooding will occur. Mr. Reeves stated that subsequent phases of the plan call for filling in and leveling Mill Creek and then building a park on top of the site as well as a horseshoe-shaped road.
- Commissioner Cucco asked what the mounded soil will be used for. Mr. Reeves stated that it will be used for future development.
- Secretary Lawrence asked if a survey was conducted on the site. Mr. Reeves stated that other areas are being investigated and lots 79 and 80 are the ones currently ready to be remediated.
- Commissioner Cucco asked if Mr. Reeves could confirm that much of this area is wetlands. Mr. Reeves said yes, Mill Creek and small sections around Mill Creek are wetlands. He stated that the wetlands will be impacted in the future and may be remediated.
- Secretary Lawrence asked what will be done with the contaminated soil that is being removed. Mr. Newman stated that it will be loaded and brought to a permanent facility. He stated that the contaminated soil will not be treated.
- Secretary Lawrence asked if Mr. Reeves could discuss the future plan for the site. Mr. Reeves stated that they will be working with the MUA and the City to extend



sewerage out to Jersey Avenue. They will be making a holding tank under the park to hold 5 million gallons of storm water (these are tentative plans). Mr. Reeves stated that the water will be intercepted and treated.

- Commissioner Cucco asked if the anticipated building will be part of the combined sewer system. Mr. Reeves stated that no, it will not be.
- Commissioner Cucco asked if Mr. Reeves can keep the Commission informed of upcoming public meetings. Mr. Reeves said he would be sure to keep Secretary Lawrence informed.

OLD BUSINESS

Earth Day

- Commissioner Cucco stated that the Commission will have a table next to the Innovation Team at Liberty State Park from 11am to 4pm for the Hudson County Earth Day celebration. She stated that the ANJEC Water Wheel will be the main focus of the table; she will be picking it up and bringing it to the park
- Secretary Lawrence suggested that it may be a good idea to have handouts and suggested bringing copies of the Shade Tree Report.
- Commissioner Luebke suggested that there could be sign-up sheets where the public can write down what they are most interested in.
- Commissioner Meggett stated that she will bring sign-up sheets from Debra Italiano and Sustainable JC.
- Secretary Lawrence stated that she will send out a flyer to the commissioners for the movie night and discussion panel that will be taking place at St. Peter's on Wednesday April 19th at 6pm.

Waters Edge Development

- Commissioner Cucco stated that she and Commissioner Verdibello sent a letter that was well received and the Commission should expect a response from the Director of the MUA in early May.
- Commissioner Cucco stated that she asked for any permits and any notifications in the OPRA request that was submitted to Parsippany and she is waiting for a response.

EC Action Plan

- Commissioner Meggett stated that she is meeting with Debra Italiano to discuss an educational plan in regards to a citizen science program.
- Commissioner Luebke stated that she is getting resources together from Baykeeper and ANJEC in regards to putting together a plastic bag ordinance. She stated that the only standing ordinances are in Long Island.
- Secretary Lawrence stated that there was a group that previously reached out to the Commission in regards to a reusable bag campaign; this may be a good resource for the plastic bag ordinance.



CLOSING REMARKS AND OTHER BUSINESS BY COMMISSIONERS

- Commissioner Ristorucci stated that he wanted to remind everyone that the Big Jersey City Clean-Up is Saturday, April 29th.
- Commissioner Luebke stated that the Climate March in New York City is on Saturday April 29th as well.
- Commissioner Cucco stated that on Monday April 24th is the Rebuild by Design Public Meeting from 5pm to 8pm.

GENERAL PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Aleksandr Osenenko, a student from St. Peters asked a question in regards to chromium in Jersey City and contamination of our water system.
- Secretary Lawrence stated that Jersey City does not utilize the groundwater; the water is piped in from the Highlands/ Boonton Reservoir.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next Environmental Commission meeting is scheduled for 9 May 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Caucus Room, City Hall, 280 Grove Street, Jersey City, NJ 07302.



Notices to Environmental Commission as of April 18, 2017

DATE	PROJECT	NOTIFICATION FROM	NOTIFICATION TYPE	PERMIT/CERTIFICATON REQUESTED	PERMITTING/ CERTIFYING BODY
3/8/17	Hudson County Chromate Sites 091, 092, 093, 094, and 183	Amec Foster Wheeler Environment & Infrastructure, Inc.	Reports for your information	None. Remedial Investigation Reports/Remedial Action Work Plans	N/A
3/21/17	Filling in of Long Slip Canal; extension of JCMUA CSO outfall to HBLR Bridge; construction of 2-track bridge over Marin Blvd; and new platforms, tracks, station, and crew quarters.	NJ DEP, Div. of Land Use Regulation	Notice of Issuance of Permits	Waterfront Devel. Upland Individual and IP In-Water Individual permits, Water Quality Certificate	NJDEP, Div. of Land Use Regulation
3/22/17	J. Pyskaty Disposal, Inc., Castle Road, Secaucus, NJ	DEP, Div. of Solid & Hazardous Waste	Notification & request for comments	Permit renewal of Solid Waste Transfer Station/Material Recovery Facility	NJDEP, Div. of Solid & Hazardous Waste
3/30/17	10-story hotel with 212 guest rooms and 6,500 sf of ground-floor retail space - 159 Morgan Street	Dresdner Robin	Notice of Submission	Flood Hazard Area Verification and Individual Permit with a Hardship Exception	NJ DEP, Div. of Land Use Regulation

3/10/17	The Rise Mixed use Development - 711 Montgomery Street	Hudson-Essex-Passaic Soil Conservation District	Notice of Certification	Certifications of Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plans	Hudson-Essex-Passaic Soil Conservation District
3/13/17	Shree Bhuvneshwari Realty Newark Ave Demolition - 703-707 Newark Ave	Hudson-Essex-Passaic Soil Conservation District	Notice of Certification	Certifications of Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plans	Hudson-Essex-Passaic Soil Conservation District
3/15/17	Duncan Avenue Reconstruction Project - Duncan Ave (Hackensack River to Stockton Ave)	Hudson-Essex-Passaic Soil Conservation District	Notice of Certification	Certifications of Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plans	Hudson-Essex-Passaic Soil Conservation District
3/13/17	Shree Bhuvneshwari Realty Newark Ave Demolition - 703-707 Newark Ave	Hudson-Essex-Passaic Soil Conservation District	Notice of Certification	Certifications of Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plans	Hudson-Essex-Passaic Soil Conservation District
3/20/17	NJTA Bridge Deck Rehab T100.321 - NJ Turnpike MP N5.80 to N8.20	Hudson-Essex-Passaic Soil Conservation District	Notice of Certification	Certifications of Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plans	Hudson-Essex-Passaic Soil Conservation District
3/31/17	Monitor Mixed Use - 100 Monitor St.	Hudson-Essex-Passaic Soil Conservation District	Notice of Certification	Certifications of Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plans	Hudson-Essex-Passaic Soil Conservation District

*Copies of notices made to the Environmental Commission are available for review by the public for up to one year at the office of the Division of Planning, 30 Montgomery Street, Suite 1400, Jersey City, 07302.