



MEETING MINUTES

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

Alison Cucco, Chair

Meeting: Jersey City Environmental Commission Public Meeting

Date / Location: 13 October 2020 – 6 p.m.
Via Zoom

Attendees: **Commissioners/City
Representatives**

Alison Cucco
Luz Guzman
Mario Verdibello
Ashley Metius
Matt Trump
Scott Mittman
Tami Weaver

Members of the Public:

Glen Finkle
Mike Recchia

Carolina Ramos, Sustainability

Prepared By: Carolina Ramos

Date Prepared: November 9, 2020

ROLL CALL

Chair Cucco called the Commission to order at 6:11 PM. Seven of eight active commissioners were present; four constitutes quorum. Commissioners Metius, Cucco, Trump, Mittman, Verdibello, Weaver, and Guzman were present. Commissioner Cruz was absent.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

Secretary Ramos announced that meeting notice was sent on October 6 to the Jersey Journal, Hudson Reporter, El Especialito, and the City Clerk.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The meeting minutes for October were approved with a minor edit.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Communications regarding development projects were provided to the Commissioners. They will be attached to the meeting minutes and are available in the Office of Sustainability.

SCHEDULED SPEAKER

Glen Finkle, PUREti Air Purifying Technology

- Glen Finkle is an entrepreneur of clean technology space. He started a solar factory and also a clean water company. Currently, he is working with the Guggenheim Museum about applying PUREti technology to their outdoor advertising.

- As a company, PURETi is an American manufacturer of water and mineral based, photocatalytic solutions. Photo catalysis has been described as the safe and natural reversal of photosynthesis. Spray applied - indoors or out - PURETi transforms all treated surfaces into self-cleaning, bio-protective air purifiers.
PURETi goes to market by selling to manufacturers and service providers. Here are some that tell their story:
 - Indoors - ThinkLite + PURETi is a device that saves energy and delivers hospital-grade quality clean air.
 - Outdoors - Neolith + PURETi - please see here:
<https://www.neolith.com/en/applications/facades/self-cleaning-and-sustainable-facades/>
 - New Jersey - CleanSmart
- Reversing outdoor pollution at the Holland Tunnel would be a good idea. PURETi is currently working on implementing this in Swedish tunnels.
- Questions and Answers
 - Chair Cucco asked about the estimated cost to treat the Holland Tunnel and if Glen has reached out to the Port Authority.
 - Glen Finkle stated that in energy savings it may pay itself off in two years. Unfortunately, it is easier to work overseas and to bring back that work to the USA once he has fully documented results. In California Google, Apple, and Tesla has integrated the technology.
 - Commissioner Metius asked if the technology is manufactured in the USA. Mr. Finkle confirmed that it is.
 - Commissioner Verdibello wanted to know if units can be purchased in stores. Mr. Finkle stated that units can be purchased online but they will be available in stores next year.
 - Chair Cucco inquired about past and/or current partnerships with schools. What does the implementation timeline looks? What is the cost estimate for a small installation in school?
 - Glen Finkle said that the Thinklite equipment can be leased and paid for through energy savings. They created this program in early March 2020. Additionally, PURETi Clean and Fresh (similar to a Windex solution) is used by schools in Austin, Texas and in Atlanta, Georgia.
 - Furthermore, small projects may be implemented in a month. Installation of air quality measuring technology and installation of lights = \$1.50-2.00 per square foot which includes labor, installation of lights and measuring.
 - Commissioner Weaver-Henry asked if PURETi worked with restaurants. Mr. Finkle said they are currently working with a fitness club right now but not with restaurants.
- Next steps
 - Chair Cucco thinks that the JCEC should explore the possibility of a pilot in Jersey City, such as in a school. If the pilot goes well then that may capture the Port Authority's interest.



- Commissioner Mittman will engage stakeholders and ask them questions. He will send sample questions to Chair Cucco.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Mike Recchia is a Sustainable Jersey City (SJC) board member. He would like to present their OpenTreeMap project to the Environmental Commission.
 - SJC will present during the November meeting,
 - Links to the project
 - Project page: <https://www.sustainablejc.org/opentreemap>
 - Map: <https://opentreemap.sustainablejc.org/jerseycity/map>

OLD BUSINESS

Sustainability Incentive Program

- Commissioner Mittman stated that the current fees are really low and there is potential to charge more now that development is flourishing in Jersey City. The Commission would like to see the rebate program tied into the amount of water diverted.
- Chair Cucco will see how to make a request from the Municipal Utilities Authority. Commissioner Mittman will put some points together. Chair Cucco said it's a work in progress but she will follow up and see if anyone has gotten back to her about the meeting,

Boonton Reservoir updates

- Currently, Eve Boyce does not have much of an update. Highlands Council has frozen their funds but they hope to have more information on the budget in mid-November and more updates after their December 3 meeting.

Language Access recommendation

- Chair Cucco will work on putting a recommendation together. Secretary Ramos will assist with more information.

JCEC Vice-Chair vote

- All voted in favor to approve Commissioner Metius as the new vice chair.

NEW BUSINESS

Green Business Program application

- Chaconia Candles: All voted in favor to approve Chaconia Candles.
- Ecoserein's application did not receive sufficient points to be considered. Their application was tabled for a future meeting.



Shade Tree Committee updates

- Commissioner Trump stated that there were not any updates. The Committee is still working on the Tree Ordinance in Chapter 321. The Legal Department has been helping with the ordinance's language. Additionally, they are helping with what is enforceable and practical.

Office of Sustainability updates

- Over the summer, the Office of Sustainability held two virtual meetings with the Climate Action Plan Working Groups and the Steering Committee. The final draft of the Climate Action Plan is tentatively scheduled for release at the end of the year.
- In November-December the City will be re-launching its employee car sharing program but this time with a different service provider. The City wants to continue to maximize its fleet utilization and the program will expand to two new municipal facilities. Additionally, the City has added more electric vehicles to its fleet and to its police fleet.
- The Composting Drop-Off Program has expanded to a total of 11 sites. For more information, visit jcmakeitgreen.org/composting.

Closing remarks and other business by commissioners

- The Plastics event was rescheduled due to technical difficulties. A new date will be announced soon.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 PM.

NEXT MEETING

There will be an Environmental Commission meeting on November 10, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom.



Jersey City Environmental Commission
October 2020 Submission and Application Notices

DATE	PROJECT	NOTIFICATION FROM	NOTIFICATION TYPE	PERMIT/ CERTIFICATION	PERMIT/ CERTIFICATION
9/28/2020	Emerson Building Complex Phase III 316 15th Street Block: 6903, Lot: 3.04	Urban Architecture LLC.	Notice of Submission	Form TWA-1 – Treatment Works Application	NJ DEP, Div. of Water Quality
9/22/2020	MAA Lalita Westside, LLC 271-277 Sip Avenue Block: 11905, Lot: 1	InSite Engineering, LLC	Notice of Submission	Form TWA-1 – Treatment Works Application	NJ DEP, Div. of Water Quality
9/17/2020	Site 067 - Chapel Avenue Block: 27401, Lot: 41 PI# G000008695	Honeywell/Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, Inc.	Notice of Remedial Action Report	Remediation Investigation Report (RIR)/Remedial Action Work Plan (RAWP)	NJ DEP, Site Remediation Program
9/11/2020	Site 067 - Chapel Avenue Block: 27401, Portion of Lot 42 PI# G000008695	Honeywell/Maria Kaouris	Approval of Remedial Action Report	Remediation Investigation Report (RIR)/Remedial Action Work Plan (RAWP)	NJ DEP, Site Remediation Program