



SOUTH ORANGE VILLAGE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Thursday 07/15/21 from 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Adequate notice given to the public

MEETING MINUTES

Minutes could not be approved and votes not taken because there was not a quorum present.

Policy Updates

- 1) The Arborist Resolution passed the BOT and we have an arborist on duty for at least 100 hours
- 2) The Leaf Blower Ordinance will likely go to the BOT in September. Members should prepare testimony.
- 3) The Shade Tree Ordinance to form a shade tree commission is being worked on. There was a meeting on Monday.

Resolutions for EC to Consider

- 1) Pay Up Climate Polluters
- 2) Fossil Fuel Divestment from pension fund

No vote can be taken due to lack of quorum.

Public Session

Michael Parlapiano suggested that the EC take a position on delaying the RFP for the recycling shed since there is no overall recycling plan or how the shed will be used or if it will. Information will be distributed for the larger group to consider.

Project Updates:

- 1) Heat Island: White paper by George and Jess has been added to the Master Plan. John Nettleman suggested trees in commercial core will reduce temperature and we should look at ways like painting and structures to reduce heat in parking lots.
- 2) Tree Committee: Fall Tree planting in the works and homeowners guide on the way. Need to decide which locations for trees to prioritize for fall planting as NJ Tree Foundation would like estimates by August. The homeowners guide will go on blog after the arborist approves.
- 3) Zero Waste Committee: Reminder about July 22nd Reimagining Recycling Town Hall
- 4) Communications: 804 Followers on Facebook, doubled from last year but not enough. 249 followers in Instagram

Linda announced that Rocket Ship and Print will accept used bubble wrap and other used packaging material for recycling. YAY!!



Work Crew Projects: Focusing on maintenance of old projects instead of new ones. Last weekend Waterlands, this weekend Bar Mitzvah spot or river cleanup on Saturday.

Guest Speaker: Eric Williges, Essex County Mosquito Control.

Prefers to go yard to yard helping people rather than spreading insecticide to control mosquitoes.

George Finlay asked why they work in the wee hours. The answer they want to spray while less people are around to reduce interaction.

Linda Beck asked what areas are you spraying? Answer: We go all over following what tracking shows and when people call in.

Linda Beck asked what is the number one cause of mosquito complaints? In suburbs, small containers people don't know are mosquito breeding grounds. Asian Tiger mosquitoes newest breed.

Linda Beck asked is Essex County doing something like sterilizing females? Answer, not right now.

Jennie Aylward asked how long is the reproductive cycle for mosquitoes? Answer about a week.

Linda Beck asked are subscription services a scam and is cedar oil any good? Answer, subscription services treatments can be effective. Spraying a barrier can be effective but not recommended. Cedar oil can work but spraying on lawns not effective. Candles help.

Barbara Bour asked does what is being hurt more than mosquitoes by spraying? Answer, spray targets mosquitoes.

Lorraine Graves asked how strong is message to homeowners on preventive measures? Answer, important to know how little water it takes to breed mosquitoes. Eric trying to do more public appearances to spread the word.

Linda Beck asked if there is a budget to get County Mosquito brochure in the mail? Answer, can bring it up but not sure about mailing.

EC can help by broadcasting info in Gaslight and on blog.

Linda Beck asked if there is a map of high demand areas where we can get bioswales or other ways to drain waters. Answer there is data and worth follow up discussion.

This ended presentation.

Action Items

- 1) Forming of mosquito subcommittee
- 2) Review Resolutions
- 3) Prepare for Leaf Blower Ordinance before BOT in September

Walter Clarke stated that alternate commissioner spots were vacant. Seeking nominations for new alternates and urged green teamers to contact Linda Beck.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:14 PM.