

Montclair Environmental Commission Meeting

November 11, 2015 @ 7:30pm

Attendees: Lyle Landon (Co-Chair), Imke Oster (Co-Chair), James Sherman, Barbara Hedeem, Jerry Fried, Siobhan McCarthy, Catherine Outlaw, Jessica Stolzberg (Alternate)

Visitors: Suzanne Aptman, Dean Squires, Lisa from Mtc. Times

Type of Meeting: Monthly **Facilitator:** Lyle Landon

Notetaker: Jerry Fried

Introductions, Announcements, and Guests:

Call the Meeting to Order 7:40

Acceptance of October minutes

Agenda items, Action Items, To Consider

Calendar:

- Thurs., Nov 19th Green Film Series 6:30PM main library
- discussion about potential benefactor for film series (Gray has one)
- This Changes Everything in Teaneck (Siobhan will send more info)
- last "Rising Tide" is Nov 19th at 6:30 at MSU (storm-surges and other climate events)
- flash mob on Dec 12th run by 350.org at Statue of Liberty (Siobhan can send link)*
- Essex Env 5pm on Dec 7th (county party at McLoone's afterwards) Grey will have room #
- climate change book group meets at Watchung Booksellers (Siobhan has info at website)

INSERTED ITEM: Dean Squires, Montclair resident, leads discussion of Citizen Climate Lobby's Essex County Carbon Tax Resolution - passed unanimously by Freeholders on October 14, 2015. (equivalent of .10/gallon gas tax) - would be essentially "free" to citizens, actually BENEFIT low-income households - seeking Republican congressman - NJ delegation receptive exc. Scott Garrett - ASK: we should consider resolution and propose passage of Council resolution -

Previous Outreach Activity:

- Meeting with Interim Township Manager Tim Stafford- met w/Tim - James: "covered issues, he was responsive BUT didn't even know about leafblower/tree", "should have received a briefing" - Lyle: compliance issues, 22.5% renewable energy goals by 2021 and 2% greenhouse gas reduction, asked enforcement help - Imke: flagged \$\$ for 3-500 trees, TS contacted re: money for tree inventory (Steve Schuckman says MUCH higher) - MSU guy SUPPOSEDLY volunteering putting price tag on trees at Nishuane Park -
- Green Drinks at Lyle's house: over 12 groups represented, many want to return, Lyle's goal is quarterly, goal: getting projects going between meetings, SEND NAMES TO LYLE IF YOU HAVE ANY OTHERS
- 90 TREES received from US Fish and Wildlife, planted in Cary's Woods and Bonsal Preserve, also gave deer-guards and fencing, most plants are protected **WE MAY BE ABLE TO HELP NEXT YEAR**

Discussion Topics:

Sustainable Jersey – MEC involvement - Jerry

- Goals and Allocation of Responsibilities – everyone serving on Board needs to ‘own’ an initiative or two and manage the progress.
- LYLE: GREEN business recognition
- Siobhan: Reusable Bag education
- Imke: tree enforcement/preservation
- James: tree enforcement/preservation
- Jerry: work with Keith on Planning Board
- Catherine: as Civil Engineering, work with Keith on stormwater/tree
- anti-idling

Detailed Sustainable Jersey actions as discussed at the meeting:

<http://www.sustainablejersey.com/actions-certification/actions/>

DISCUSSION W/SEAN ABOUT NEED TO HAVE 3-5 BUDGET ITEMS FOR 2016 (sub-discussion of code enforcement allocation for trees) - James communicates about Tim Stafford meeting, when he was receptive - **WE NEED TO COME UP WITH THESE 3-5 BUDGET ITEMS FOR EITHER OPERATING OR CAPITAL BUDGETS BY JANUARY 1, 2015.**

Lyle: **Sharon Colluci from Channel 34 will help produce environmental segments**

**You are invited to join a creative Road Through Paris "flash mob" event on December 12, 2015 to send a message to world leaders to take bold action on climate.*

Across the world, as the Paris COP 21 climate talks conclude, local 350 groups and allies will organize events to draw the line -- a red line to signify our determined resistance to policies that continue to warm our planet. In NYC/NJ we will stage a flash mob/visual tableau of a "red line" encircling the Statue of Liberty. As the embodiment of our freedom and liberty, a gift from France as an expression of solidarity with our democratic values, a safe harbor for refugees, a place where families gather to reflect upon their past and future, and the ultimate symbol of hope for people seeking a better life for future generations, the Statue of Liberty provides an ideal backdrop for our urgent message.

Ticket reservations are available on Eventbrite here: <https://cop21-at-liberty-island.eventbrite.com>