Flemington Borough Environmental Commission
Monday, February 3rd, 2025 7pm
38 Park Ave, Flemington, NJ
Regular Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 7:07pm

a. OPMA Statement

Chairwoman Swingle read the OPMA Statement.

b. Roll Call

Name	Position	Present	Absent
Milissa Swingle	Chair	X	
Chris Runion	Vice-Chair	X	
Trent Levitt	Secretary, Council Liaison	X	
Ellen Indoe	Member	X	
John Kearny	Member		X
Freddy Mejia	Member, Alt #1		X
Ken Palminteri	Member, Alt #2	X	

II. Election of Officers

A nomination was made for Chris Runion to be Vice-Chair

He was unanimously approved

A nomination was made for Trent Levitt to be Secretary

He was unanimously approved

III. Reports

a. Chairperson

No report was given

b. Council Liaison

Councilman Levitt updated the commission on the Raritan Headwaters annual stream clean up

c. Planning Board Liaison

No report was given

d. Shade Tree Liaison

Councilman Levitt updated the commission on the Shade Tree Commission's Community Forestry Management Plan. He told the Commission one was submitted last year but rejected by the State due to a lack of a tree inventory. The Commission is working on getting a grant for inventory software and will likely need helping counting all the trees.

e. Committee Reports

Councilman Levitt asked for an update on the Shade Tree Ordinances that were discussed last year. No update was given.

IV. Public Comment

There were no members of the public present

V. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the prior meeting were not distributed to approve. Councilman Levitt will distribute the previous meetings minutes to the Commission to be approved next time.

VI. Site Plan Reviews

Nova Domus LLC, 6 Parker Avenue

Chairwoman Swingle gave a brief overview of the site. She indicated it was an empty parcel to be turned into a house. She asked to clarify what the Commission's report can contain. Councilman Levitt said there were no limits to the information contained within the report.

Chairwoman Swingle commented that the Fire Marshall's report indicated no issues with Fire Safety.

Commissioner Indoe was concerned by the number of trees to be cut down on the site. Commissioner Indoe noted the plans showed only one Sugar Maple was to be planted. She wanted to check whether it was a native tree. The Commission decided to defer any recommendations for plantings and trees to the Shade Tree Commission.

Commissioner Indoe inquired about the runoff from the impervious surface affecting adjacent properties.

Commissioner Levitt opposed the use of natural gas. He noted the lack of any lighting plans and recommended advising the applicant to use dark sky friendly lighting. He suggested using a semi-permeable pavement to reduce the impact of the impervious coverage.

Councilman Levitt requested to write the report. The Commission agreed.

VII. General Business

The Commissioners introduced themselves to each other.
Councilman Levitt told the Commission he wanted to write and propose a light pollution ordinance by the end of the year.

VIII. Chair Items

Chairwoman Swingle discussed the time commitment of the Environmental Commission. She discussed the meeting schedule and that Commissioners could attend a meeting telephonically.

IX. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:57pm

Approved 2025-04-08