

Members Present (Quorum Established at Four or More Members)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessica Pearson (Chair/Planning Board Liaison)	<input type="checkbox"/> Michael Auteri	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sean DiBartolo (Vice Chair/Plan Review)	<input type="checkbox"/> Kari Baureis	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Martin Golan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fuad Dahan (Alternate I)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sarah Yauch O'Farrell	<input type="checkbox"/> Councilwoman Christine McGrath (Gov. Body Liaison)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frank Ceccacci (Sustainable Verona Liaison)		
	DISCUSSION	ACTION REQUIRED
1.	Call to Order by Jess: a) Open Public Meetings Act Statement b) Roll Call performed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None.
2.	Public Comment Period: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MOTION to Open Public Comment Period: Jess; Second: Sean. APPROVAL: All Members Present AYE Period Closed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Comments Public Comment closed. Councilman Ryan attended meeting and filled in for Councilwoman McGrath as Governing Body liaison. He contributed throughout the meeting.
3.	Approval of June 12, 2019 Meeting Minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MOTION to Approve: Jess; Second: Martin. APPROVAL: All Members Present AYE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sean will email approved minutes to Township Clerk Kiernan and Steve Neale.
4.	Discussion of Sustainable Student Contest Fall 2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The poster contest will ask for only 4th grade elementary schools student participation. Participation is being limited to stress the importance of the elders in the elementary schools as leaders among their respective student bodies to bring attention to any environmental issue of their choosing. It also enables VEC members to give proper attention to displaying the submissions. A sustainability-themed multimedia project (i.e. : a meme, a tweet, an ad, a picture with a headline, a 15- to 30-second video) will apply to HBW and VHS Environmental Club students. The Contest will begin in September and conclude on October 2, 2019 on National Bike and Walk to School Day. VEC members will be assigned to schools to hang 4th Graders' poster submissions and choose a winner at the four elementary schools. HBW and VHS student submissions will be emailed to the VEC Chair and distributed to members. Members assigned to those schools will choose the corresponding winning submission. The four winning posters and best multimedia submissions from HBW and VHS will be awarded a \$50 check and certificate from the Mayor and Council at the October 21, 2019 Council Meeting. Emails have been sent to all elementary and Middle School Principals as well as the VHS Club leader, Linda Haftel. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jessica will send the schools a notification about the contest's new parameters and will visit each school to confirm. Sarah and Kari will cover FN Brown and Laning Ave. Sean, Fuad and Frank will cover Forest Ave. Martin will cover Brookdale. Jess and Mike A will cover HBW and VHS Will revisit progress at the Sept. meeting. Jess will begin drafting the certificates for review at the Sept. meeting.
5.	Updates: a) Grove Garden Progress: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Orders were placed for all purchased plantings: Pleasantdale totaled approximately \$130; Hillcrest totaled approximately 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further details will be emailed to all members for planting dates.

	<p>\$460. Purchase orders were granted and orders are on garden center sites.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hillcrest ordered wall components but has yet to begin construction and site prep. DPW has had too many challenges with water main issues town wide to spare a work crew for the garden project at present. However, the DPW stripped the topsoil within the proposed garden footprint so the project will be moving forward soon. ○ Sarah and Jess will be donating certain other native plantings from bulbs and other splits from their own gardens. ○ Dates will be set for planting asap, even though many, if not most, of the perennials have bloomed this season. ○ A mailing will go out with dates and times when available. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councilman Ryan asked whether the commission wanted volunteers to help with plantings. Sarah and Jess agreed that asking Master Gardeners Val Ryan and Teena Schwartz for guidance is a great idea. • Jess will keep members up to date on installation via email.
	<p>b) Tree Ordinance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Town Manager Cavallo and Jess have been working on a new iteration of a tree ordinance that is modeled after the Borough of Highland Park. ○ There are changes being made to certain stipulations and some of the chain-of-command insofar as who is charged with the enforcement of the ordinance. Our version of the ordinance restricts how many trees may be removed in a calendar year and increases the permit fee to \$100 per tree. ○ DPW and the Zoning Code Officer will oversee enforcement. ○ Mr. Cavallo thinks this ordinance will be introduced at the Second August Council meeting later this month. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No further action on this is necessary. • Members will be informed as to the introduction date and may want to attend the meeting in support of the ordinance.
	<p>c) Plastic Bag Ban for Verona:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Steve Neale would like to hold a public presentation of the Plastic Bag Ban Power Point review, which we have all seen. ○ No date or venue has been set as yet but it is in the works. ○ The presentation would encourage the Council and members of the public and business community to ask questions and get information as to possible implementations of the ban. ○ Public feedback is essential prior to any drafting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awaiting further direction from Steven Neale.
6.	VEC Plan Review Committee Comments and Findings	
	<p>a) 9 Hathaway Lane:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Single-family home proposing the addition of air conditioner units in the side yard setback. ○ The commission found that the addition of such units should not burden the neighboring property, whose a/c units were adjacent to the proposed installation site. ○ VEC suggests using energy efficient units. ○ MOTION to approve VEC PRC Memo: Sean; Second: Jess. ○ APPROVAL: All members present AYE.e 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan review memo was sent to Kelly Lawrence of the Board of Adjustments prior to the case hearing.
e	<p>b) 20 Whitney Terrace:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Single-family home wishing to maintain 6-foot deer fencing on back border of property. ○ VEC supports the use of deer fencing to keep deer from devouring all plant growth and to protect family and pets from 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan review memo was sent to Kelly Lawrence of the Board of Adjustments prior to the case hearing.

	<p>deer ticks, which are known carriers of Lyme disease.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ VEC suggests that perhaps Verona Ordinance should allow for this sort of fencing. ○ MOTION to approve VEC PRC Memo: Sean; Second: Sarah. ○ APPROVAL: All Members Present AYE. 	
7.	New Business:	
	<p>a) Welcome New VEC Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Councilwoman Christine McGrath.e ○ Kari Baureis. ○ Fuad Dahan. ○ New Members may make their strengths known and which sorts of tasks that they would feel most comfortable pursuing for the Commission. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kari was unable to attend the meeting. • Councilwoman McGrath was unable to attend the meeting. • Fuad is an environmental engineer and LSRP who wanted to volunteer more time in town. He would like to participate in the Plan Review Committee along with Sean and Jess. The Commission was happy to welcome him and looks forward to his contribution.
	<p>b) Update on Planning Board Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Denué (a.k.a. Spectrum360) property as an area in need of redevelopment. (Tabled). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Board meeting was carried to August thus the Commission tabled discussion.
	<p>c) Sustainable Verona will be holding a special meeting on 8/7/19 at the Avenue Bistro to review the new Tesla</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No additional action required.
	<p>d) Next agenda will include updates from Frank on Sustainable Verona; Discussion of the Peckman remediation, Stormwater Utility potential, and Clean Water specs that apply to natural wells.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jess to develop next meeting agenda.
9.	Adjournment: Next meeting September 11, 2019 7 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VCC Meeting Room