

<b>Members Present (Quorum Established at Four or More Members)</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessica Pearson (Chair/Planning Board Liaison)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Auteri	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sean DiBartolo (Vice Chair/Plan Review)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kari Baureis	
<input type="checkbox"/> Martin Golan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fuad Dahan (Alternate I)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sarah Yauch O'Farrell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Christen Dietz (Alternate II)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frank Ceccacci (Sustainable Verona Liaison)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Christine McGrath (Gov. Body Liaison)	
	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION REQUIRED</b>
1.	<b>Call to Order by Jess:</b> a) Open Public Meetings Act Statement b) Roll Call performed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None.</li> </ul>
2.	<b>Public Comment Period:</b> <b>No Public Attendees were present</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None.</li> </ul>
3.	<b>Approval of January 7, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>MOTION to Approve:</b> Jess; <b>Second:</b> Sean.</li> <li><b>APPROVAL:</b> All Members Present AYE.</li> <li><b>Abstentions:</b> Kari Baureis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sean will email approved minutes to Township Clerk Kiernan and Steve Neale.</li> </ul>
4.	<b>Updates:</b>	
	<b>a) VEC Website Presentation (Mike A.)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mike A. has been working on redesigning the VEC website to be more navigable.</li> <li>Mike A. has designed a site with access to 6 to 7 pages at the top of the home page leading to fundamental information about the VEC. These include: Meetings, Ordinances, Natural Verona, Disposal, Contact Us and How to Help.</li> <li>One page has been reserved for news, blog, events, and updates and VEC members will be encouraged to supply content for that page.</li> <li>Sean expressed interest in adding a "Citizen Scientist" page for engaging and educating residents. This would allow residents to contact the VEC to report environmentally-based issues occurring in Verona.</li> <li>Jess asked members to consider whether we should upload the PRC memos to the Ordinance page.</li> <li>Mike A. will transfer certain information from the existing site and archive other older information for reference. Jess has also sent some essential material for inclusion on the main site tabs.</li> <li>Jess, Sean, Mike A., and Steve Neale will have access to upload documents and edit information on the site as is necessary.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The website has been under review for the past year.</li> <li>Mike A. has designed a more streamlined site that will be easier to navigate for users.</li> <li>Mike A. has set an appointment to showcase the site with Steve Neale.</li> <li>Information migration will begin to occur once approval is given from the Township.</li> <li>Web hosting will be purchased upon approval by the Township.</li> <li>Discussion of further administrative roles will occur at a later meeting.</li> <li>Mike A. will give a brief tutorial to any administrative users.</li> <li>Update in March Meeting.</li> </ul>
	<b>b) Earth Day Celebration Plans</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tree Giveaway, cleanup, and mulching of garden is planned.</li> <li>Mike A. will design an e-flyer for promoting the event.</li> <li>Jess suggests installing a garden border made of recycled materials to run around the back of the garden. This will protect from lawn mowers and prevent grass from spreading into the garden. Cost of 40-foot x 4-inch rolls of materials is approximately \$30 each. Spikes will also need to be installed to</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jess will send information to Mike A. for an e-flyer to be shared on Social Media by the VEC, the Library and the Township.</li> <li>Members are polled to seek scheduling of the morning and midday activities.</li> </ul>

	<p>stabilize the borders. 10 packs are approximately \$10.50 each. Master Mark Terrace Board is only one brand.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Jess spoke with Claudine Pascale of the Verona Public Library to discuss a continuation of the celebration of Earth day with “No Child Left Inside”. This program would usher a walk with Verona children from the civic center to Grove Park where VEC members will help educate them about our garden, open space and the importance of trees. The walk will continue to the Peckman River with further educational discussion. It was decided that this walk will coincide with our tree giveaway for continuity of our Earth Day celebration.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Jess needs to order the garden border so that it may be installed in April. She will contact Steve Neale for approval.</li> <li>● We will assign participation roles for the cleanup at the March Meeting.</li> <li>● The event will occur on Saturday, 4/18/2020 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. with a Rain Date of Sunday, 4/19/2020 was designated.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>c) Montclair Country Club Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Montclair Country Club Planning Board hearing was adjourned until the regularly scheduled February 27, 2020 meeting when the Township Engineer will be available to attend.</li> <li>○ Jess and Sean received information from HEPSCD and the USDA that an error had been made on the most updated version of the Essex County Soil Survey. One of the soils on the site was incorrectly classified as HSG D (Hydrologic Soil Group D) when it is HSG A. As a result, the applicant’s Stormwater management report cites the wrong soil type and recalculations may be required.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Jess and Sean will update the VEC if new information becomes available.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>d) Consistency Review of Cameco Site</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Zoning conditions have been drafted and will be reviewed by the Planning Board for consistency with our Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance.</li> <li>○ The constraints of the township to meet our affordable housing obligations have had a direct effect on the environmental standards which appear to have been omitted from Cameco’s Zoning Plan.</li> <li>○ The Township has not addressed the recommendation letter sent to them by the VEC on 12/30/19.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A special Planning Board hearing for this consistency review is scheduled for 2/18/2020 at 7:30 p.m. in the VCC Ballroom. All members are encouraged to attend.</li> </ul>
5.	<p><b>VEC Plan Review Committee Comments and Findings</b></p> <p><b>a) 37-49 Durrell Street:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Applicant to Board of Adjustment seeks variance to install signage to identify Townhouse community.</li> <li>○ The PRC had no comments for this application.</li> <li>○ <b>MOTION to approve VEC PRC Memo for 37-49 Durrell Street:</b> Sean; <b>Second:</b> Jess.</li> <li>○ <b>APPROVAL:</b> All Members Present AYE.</li> </ul> <p><b>b) 35 Pease Avenue:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Applicant seeks variance to build 192 ft<sup>2</sup> shed in the setback area near property border.</li> <li>○ The PRC recommends installation of the allowable 150 ft<sup>2</sup> shed to minimize improved lot coverage.</li> <li>○ PRC references compliance with the Tree Ordinance in the event any trees are removed and to deter interference with the tree dripline.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sean had sent VEC PRC memos to the appropriate Board Secretary at their due date.</li> <li>● The BOA meeting will take place 2/13/2020 at 8 p.m. in the VCC Ballroom.</li> <li>● Sean had sent VEC PRC memos to the appropriate Board Secretary at their due date.</li> <li>● The BOA meeting will take place 2/13/2020 at 8 p.m. in the VCC Ballroom.</li> </ul>

**Regular Meeting Minutes:  
Wednesday, February 12, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o VEC suggests using green building products for construction and dispose of waste materials (like asbestos pipe insulation) in a proper manner.</li> <li>o <b>MOTION to approve VEC PRC Memo 35 Pease Avenue:</b> Sean; <b>Second:</b> Jess.</li> <li>o <b>APPROVAL:</b> All Members Present AYE.</li> </ul>	
6.	<b>New Business</b>	
	<p><b>a) ANJEC Fundamentals for Environmental Commissions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The course will take place on Saturday, 3/7/2020 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Turtle Back Zoo Education Center.</li> <li>o The course discusses many aspects of Environmental Commission responsibilities including plan review and Stormwater management review.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interested members should let Jess know so she can register them for the Course.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>b) Sustainable Verona Update: Frank</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Plastic bag ordinance is being revisited by the Town Council.</li> <li>o The EV charging station is seeing broad increases in use; 30 new drivers each month. Future plans include a new charging station at the Verona Community Center and possibly at the Verona Community Pool.</li> <li>o Sustainable Verona is formulating a spreadsheet with actions to be taken to achieve Silver Certification. Frank would like to see more coordination between the VEC and SV to achieve these actions and goals.</li> <li>o Steve Neale filed for a \$10,000 grant for the Community Garden. The date for planting has been pushed back to Spring of 2021.</li> <li>o Some members of SV are interested in participating in multiple VEC clean up events, including our plans for Earth Day.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Frank to continue providing VEC with updates from Sustainable Verona at each meeting.</li> <li>• Frank will invite SV members to the VEC's Earth Day Tree Giveaway and cleanup event at the March meeting.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>c) Plastic Bag Ban Update: Councilwoman McGrath</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Verona is reconsidering a retail-based Plastic Bag Ban because the State of NJ failed to pass a Statewide Ban.</li> <li>o Details of the Ban are still being negotiated, including limiting retailers to a maximum charge of a 10¢ fee for paper bags and potential waiver for certain non-profits.</li> <li>o If adopted, the ban would likely go into effect in September of 2020.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update in the March Meeting.</li> </ul>
8.	<b>Adjournment: Next meeting Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 7 p.m.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VCC Meeting Room</li> </ul>