

<b>Members Present (Quorum Established at Four or More Members)</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessica Pearson (Chair/Liaison to Planning Board) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frank Ceccacci (Sustainable Verona Liaison) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anthony Saltalamacchia (Vice Chair) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Auteri <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sean DiBartolo (Plan Review) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Timothy Kiernan (Alternate II) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Martin Golan <input type="checkbox"/> Mayor Kevin Ryan (Liaison from Town Council) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sarah Yauch O'Farrell		
	<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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>MOTION to Open Public Comment Period:</b> Jess; <b>Second:</b> Sarah.</li> <li><b>APPROVAL:</b> All Members Present AYE</li> <li>Period Closed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No comments</li> <li>Public Comment closed.</li> </ul>
3.	<b>Approval of April 10, 2019 Meeting Minutes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>MOTION to Approve:</b> Sean; <b>Second:</b> Jess.</li> <li><b>APPROVAL:</b> All Members Present AYE</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>Peckman River Clean-up Event Planning: June 8, 2019</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jessica will ask Mr. Cavallo to ask Chuck for table, tools and supplies for clean-up collection</li> <li>The hours of Clean up are 9 to 11:30 a.m. Members will invite their assigned contacts: Jess: Schools; Sean: Boy Scouts; Sarah: Presbyterian Church; Tim: OLL; Frank: MSU.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DPW will drop off Table and tools and wheel barrow.</li> <li>Jess will bring tent, trees, waiver forms for participants.</li> </ul>
5.	<b>Updates:</b>	
	<b>a) Community Garden:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awaiting new plans from Mike DeCarlo.</li> <li>Frank met with Sustainable members who are pricing out some of the items and collecting data for the grant submission.</li> <li>Sustainable members have set a goal to have the fencing up by winter 2019 and planting set for next Mother's Day 2020.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update when new information becomes available.</li> </ul>
	<b>b) Site Plan Review/Tree Ordinance/Stormwater Ordinance:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tree Ordinance is nearing final stages of review and should be on Council Agenda within a month.</li> <li>Tree Ordinance will affect both commercial and residential properties owners of both vacant and developed lots.</li> <li>Tree Ordinance changes include the addition of Shade Tree Commission control of all public property.</li> <li>Town is leaning towards contracting an arborist or tree expert to enforce the ordinance.</li> <li>Stormwater Ordinance is in the early phases of review.</li> <li>No update on Site Plan Review Ordinance.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued input from Jess and Sean when warranted.</li> <li>Update next meeting.</li> </ul>
	<b>c) VEC Website:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mike A is continuing his work on revamping the website.</li> <li>Presentation is expected at June meeting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mike A. will continue working on Website mockup and may present for review in June.</li> </ul>

	<p><b>d) Student Outreach- New Fall Project:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Jess asks for suggestions for this year's school engagement project.</li> <li>○ Members suggest that elementary school participation is strong for poster contest and most befitting for that age group.</li> <li>○ Tony suggests that middle school participation is under 20 students and environmentally-themed graphics and memes would be apt for them as they are exposed to digital art in their curriculums.</li> <li>○ High school participation is also around 20 student and members suggest tweets, memes, pictures with clever headlines etc. The student could also submit articles and use them as writing examples for college applications.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Members agreed that posters contests should apply to Elementary Schools only.</li> <li>● Members will decide upon Middle and High School assignment at June meeting.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>e) Perennial Garden</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sean, Jess and Sarah put together a simple plan for the perennial garden to be installed at Grove Park.</li> <li>○ The Shade Tree Commission must approve all plantings on any publicly owned property and has responded with approval pending site plan review.</li> <li>○ The Commission has about \$2,000 in its trust fund account and expenses for garden may come from these funds. Other Funding may also become available from local group of Verona volunteers. Other volunteer groups in Verona will need to see a budget for the work before they can donate funds.</li> <li>○ Once approval is gained, we will set up dates for volunteers to help with site preparation and planting events.</li> <li>○ The Shade Tree Commission may make requests or add conditions to our existing plans.</li> <li>○ <b>MOTION to Approve Presentation to Shade Tree Commission:</b> Jess; <b>Second:</b> Sean.</li> <li>○ <b>APPROVAL:</b> All Members Present: AYE</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Jess and Sarah are attending Shade Tree Commission meeting Monday, May 13, 2019.</li> <li>● Jess and Sarah will email members as to the township's schedule to break up the ground with backhoe. Once approval is gained, Jess will speak with Mr. Cavallo to make plans, create a budget, and coordinate how to buy supplies and plants.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>f) Plastic Bag Ban</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Continued exchange of information will ensue to collect information and devise a practical proposal for implementation. There are a number of proposals being considered.</li> <li>○ Steve Neale is collecting signatures for a multi-town bag ban with West Essex Towns.</li> <li>○ No new actions have been taken but the State is considering a statewide ban on both plastic and paper bags.</li> <li>○ Many other municipalities are considering or have already passed bag bans.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Steve Neale is the lead on this and Tony will continue to attend follow up meetings.</li> <li>● Community members collecting signatures for a Bag Ban petition.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>g) Rain Garden</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ HUD will not fund the driveway at the VCC.</li> <li>○ The Community Development Block Grant will be used to fund ADA compliance on Verona's sidewalks and street crossings.</li> <li>○ Mr. Cavallo indicated that a rain garden would need to be town funded or other funds must be found through other grants.</li> <li>○ No other updates at this time.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Tabled until further discussion with town officials can inform us of town's willingness to finance the project.</li> </ul>

	<p><b>h) Social Media</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sarah has increased social engagement! 100 new likes!</li> <li>○ We need further engagement on Twitter.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Looking for Twitter posters: Mike offered to help.</li> <li>• Jess sending Mike A. ID twitter toggle information.</li> </ul>
6.	<p><b>Site Plan Review</b></p> <p><b>a) 77 Hillside Avenue Subdivision:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Conforming subdivision with future plans to add a home to the second lot.</li> <li>○ Once subdivided, the existing home property is over on improved lot coverage. However, the property is being divided into conforming lot sizes.</li> <li>○ The Verona Planning Board may be tasked with consideration of a bulk variance for coverage issues.</li> <li>○ Tabled until June for vote on formal memo.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan review for 77 Hillside Ave Subdivision was sent to Ashley Neale of the Planning Board prior to the case hearing.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>b) 21 Brookdale Avenue:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Residential property that is significantly over on improved lot coverage; 67.57% when 40% is permitted.</li> <li>○ Driveway and garage breach neighboring property lines.</li> <li>○ Proposes to remove some impervious surface and curb line that breaches neighboring property bringing coverage down to 57.20%.</li> <li>○ VEC recommends for removal of entire coverage to bring coverage down to 40%, as called for in our ordinance due especially to the fact that applicant never sought any coverage variances from the Township.</li> <li>○ <b>MOTION to approve VEC PRC Memo for 21 Brookdale Avenue:</b> Sean; <b>Second:</b> Tony.</li> <li>○ <b>APPROVAL:</b> All members present AYE.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan review for 21 Brookdale Ave was sent to Kelly Lawrence of the Board of Adjustments prior to the case hearing.</li> </ul>
7.	<p><b>New Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Second Chance Toys: recycled plastic toy program that Verona is considering. Volunteers will be needed in the fall for a holiday collection to clean the toys and load them into trucks for delivery to one of their larger service points. Members are willing to help and think they can engage other community groups to help as well.</li> <li>• Green Business initiatives: 'Green' Ribbon cuttings. Sustainable Verona and the VEC are partnered in doing green ribbon cuttings for Verona businesses that meet Verona's Green Business program standards found at <a href="https://www.veronanj.org/greenbusiness">https://www.veronanj.org/greenbusiness</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next Roundtable Thursday, May 16, 2019 at 7p.m. Madison Community House: 25 Cook Avenue, Madison. Topic: Single Use Plastic Pollution.</li> <li>• Steve Neale will update us on the dates for volunteering for Second Chance Toys.</li> </ul>
8.	<p><b>Adjournment: Next meeting June 12, 2019 7 p.m.</b></p>	VCC Meeting Room