

<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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Kevin Ryan (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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>No members of the public were present.</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None.</li> </ul>
3.	<b>Approval of July 8, 2020 Regular 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> None</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sean will email approved minutes to Township Clerk Kiernan and Steve Neale as well as upload to VEC web site.</li> </ul>
4.	<b>Upcoming Event: Cleanup at Commerce Court Open Space</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The VEC and Sustainable Verona are collaborating on a cleanup at the end of Oak Lane/Brookside Terrace on Saturday, 10/10/2020 from 9 a.m. to noon.</li> <li>Jess, Steve Neale and Manager Cavallo toured the site in August to assess the refuse in need of removal. Kari has also explored this area and added that it is often littered with cans, bottles and furniture.</li> <li>All are welcomed, but strict social distancing measures will apply, masks are required and children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.</li> <li>A registration table will be set up where volunteers will be required to sign in or check in if they have pre-registered.</li> <li>DPW will supply gloves and bags and will be available to cart the refuse and recycling materials away.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jess will work with Steve Neale to form a flyer for posting on the VEC and Verona's websites and for posting on social media.</li> <li>Jess will supply Mike with event details for upload to the VEC website.</li> <li>Most members will try to participate.</li> <li>Will ask Steve Neale for a pre-registration form to be made available on the Verona website with the waiver.</li> </ul>
5.	<b>Updates:</b> <b>a) VEC Website Update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jess asks if any new material has been produced for the site.</li> <li>Christen wrote and produced an educational video that focused upon common recycling mistakes made by residents. She presented it to the Commission. This would be featured on our website.</li> <li>Sustainable Verona had also expressed interest in producing an educational recycling video at their 9/2/2020 meeting. Jess let Steve know that we also had discussed this prospect in our July VEC meeting and were in the process of working on it, but perhaps we could work on it together.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frank will introduce Kelly from Sustainable Verona to Christen for further work on Educational Videos.</li> <li>Jess suggests that any backyard videos or photos capturing flora and fauna are opportunities to begin a blog on our website, if accompanied with some written information.</li> <li>All members were asked to think about a contribution for the website.</li> </ul>

	<p><b>b) Sustainable Verona (SV) Update (Frank and Kari)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Verona exploring benefits of SEA energy aggregate again- results forthcoming.</li> <li>○ Townwide composting program in exploration phase. Sarah provided a warning about a large composting site at the Montclair Community Garden attracting rats and wants assurance that any plans for Verona will include deterrents and preventative measures.</li> <li>○ EV charging station was installed at Community Center.</li> <li>○ SV still working to achieve Silver Certification with long term goal of Gold Certification</li> <li>○ Community Garden construction is underway with the goal of supplying 25 garden beds. The site was graded and mulched, and a shed and waterlines were installed. Fencing is expected by this fall. Updates as they become available.</li> <li>○ Franks suggested that SV and VEC should work together to produce educational recycling video. Jess added that perhaps we should produce a series of short videos that help residents to avoid additional, common, but confusing household items.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Frank and Kari provide updates at each meeting.</li> <li>● Frank will contact Steve Neale for garden site plans so the VEC can post it on their website. He will also connect Kelly D. with Christen for potential collaboration on recycling videos.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>c) Stormwater Ordinance Requirements Webinar (Sean)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Webinar sponsored jointly by The Watershed Institute and ANJEC was watched by both Jess and Sean.</li> <li>○ The new rules promote green infrastructure (GI) and stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs) throughout development sites to meet quantity and quality control, groundwater recharge, and soil erosion controls.</li> <li>○ Sean presented slides from the webinar that highlighted some examples of GI and their acreage thresholds of 2.5 acres.</li> <li>○ VEC members discussed the need to lower the threshold triggers for Verona’s proposed stormwater ordinance and the potential for requiring residential minor developments to mitigate when 400 to 500 ft<sup>2</sup> of new impervious surface is added. Sean provided a rain garden chart to illustrate typical rain garden sizes and costs for various soil types..</li> <li>○ Sean suggested updating Verona’s Zoning Code with Residential Stormwater standards to prevent conflicts with Residential Site Improvement Standards (RSIS) standards, which are less strict.</li> <li>○ The Ordinance update is required by March 3, 2021.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sean and Jess will meet virtually with Mike DeCarlo to discuss plans for Verona’s Stormwater Ordinance on 9/30/2020.</li> <li>● Sean will email the webinar to the commissioners.</li> <li>● Update at next meeting.</li> </ul>
6.	<p><b>Ordinance Updates</b></p> <p><b>a) Land Use Ordinance:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Manager Cavallo and Zoning Administrator Mike DeCarlo are in the process of drafting a new Land Use Ordinance.</li> <li>○ No further updates are available.</li> </ul> <p><b>b) Plastic Bag Ban:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ On hold</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Ordinance is a work in progress.</li> <li>● Jess will follow up with Manager Cavallo when he is available.</li> <li>● The Ordinance is still under consideration for introduction.</li> <li>● Research is still underway to determine whether carry out</li> </ul>

		bags may increase risk of Covid-19 transmission.
7.	<b>Plan Review</b>	
	<p><b>a) Montclair Golf Club: 25 Prospect Ave. West Orange.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Montclair Golf Club sent forth updated plans where almost 100 trees were to be removed, an updated lighting plan and updated Stormwater management report. On the day of the hearing, the applicant withdrew its tree removal and landscaping plans.</li> <li>○ PRC reiterated questions about regrading near wooded areas.</li> <li>○ The PRC memo focused upon increased tree removal and the downhill flow of Stormwater runoff into neighboring properties, suggesting the planting of trees at those areas of the course.</li> <li>○ <b>MOTION to approve VEC PRC Memo 25 Prospect Ave:</b> Sean; <b>Second:</b> Frank.</li> <li>○ <b>APPROVAL:</b> All Members Present AYE.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sean had sent this memo to the appropriate Board Secretary on 8/24/2020.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>b) Pirhl Developers, Bloomfield Ave (Blocks 2301, Lots 11,12,14-19)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Plans remove 281 trees, plant 148 new trees, but applicant is relieved from complying with the Tree Preservation Ordinance.</li> <li>○ PRC objected to the use Zelkova Serrata trees (emerging invasive species) as replacement trees, to which they agreed.</li> <li>○ Drainage plans included two (2) bioretention basins. The PRC memo requested additional areas be considered for these installations.</li> <li>○ PRC requested information on the soil quality on the existing site and testimony on the ongoing environmental investigations.</li> <li>○ PRC recommended compliance with Verona's anti-idling resolution during all construction phases.</li> <li>○ Recommended intercepting stormwater runoff sheet flow with area drain inlets to redirect stormwater back onto property drainage system to increase time of concentration before discharging into township storm sewers rather than flowing directly on to Pine Street.</li> <li>○ <b>MOTION to approve VEC PRC Memo 2 Pirhl Developers, Bloomfield Ave (Blocks 2301, Lots 11,12,14-19) Verona NJ:</b> Jess; <b>Second:</b> Sean.</li> <li>○ <b>APPROVAL:</b> All Members Present AYE.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sean had sent this memo to the appropriate Board Secretary on 8/10/2020</li> </ul>
	<p><b>c) Minor Application Cases 2020-2 through 2020-6: 11 Wayland Drive (Block 69, Lot 56); 177 Grove Avenue (Block 1101, Lot 6.02); 1 Stonewood Parkway (Block 302, Lot 17); 555 Bloomfield Avenue (Block 1806, Lot 19); and 278 Claremont Avenue (Block 1707, Lot 15)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The above applications were minor applications and bundled for approval.</li> <li>○ 177 Grove Avenue proposed an increase in impervious to 51.9% when 40% is the maximum allowable. The VEC recommended a larger drywell system for runoff mitigation and additional plantings to be approved by the Township Engineer</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sean had sent this memo to the appropriate Board Secretary on 8/7/2020.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The other applications generally did not have significant environmental implications.</li> <li>○ <b>MOTION to approve five minor applications:</b> Sean; <b>Second:</b> Jess.</li> <li>○ <b>APPROVAL:</b> All Members Present AYE.</li> </ul>	
8.	<b>New Business</b>	•
	<p><b>a) Poster Contest</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The VEC usually sponsors a Poster Contest for fourth graders and students in environmental clubs in the middle and high schools.</li> <li>○ After a brief discussion and poll, it was decided that the contest would be overly burdensome to the parents and the teachers who are not in classrooms and may not have the supplies or group guidance for this extracurricular event.</li> <li>○ The contest may be held at a later date to be determined.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jess will email Council Liaison Kevin Ryan to let him know that the contest will not occur this fall.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>b) 21-25 Grove Avenue Development Zoning Board of Adjustments Application</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This proposed 4-story building application with no viable open space and that is requesting 14 variances has been adjourned since Zoning Board's last in-person meeting in March 2020.</li> <li>○ VEC Members noted that many residents have expressed interest in attending the next meeting, which is virtually scheduled for via internet conference on 10/8/2020.</li> <li>○ Many VEC Members were interested in attending the meeting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sarah will share the details of the application on social media platforms to inform residents of the upcoming meeting.</li> </ul>
9.	<p><b>Adjournment 8:59 p.m.</b>  <b>Next meeting Wednesday, October 14, 2020 at 7 p.m.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Via Internet Conference</li> </ul>