

Members Present (Quorum Established at Four or More Members)		
<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 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 type="checkbox"/> Christen Dietz (Alternate II)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frank Ceccacci (Sustainable Verona Liaison)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kevin Ryan (Gov. Body 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"> • No members of the public commented. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
3.	Approval of March 10, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOTION to Approve: Jess; Second: Mike. • APPROVAL: All Members Present AYE. • Abstentions: None. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sean will email approved minutes to Township Clerk Kiernan and Steve Neale.
4.	Updates:	
	a) Earth Day Tree Giveaway <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A registration form was posted on 3/30. So far 75 residents have signed up for trees. ○ The seedlings will be delivered to Jessica's house on Thursday 4/22/21 and she and Sarah will bundle them into threes for easy distribution at the event. ○ All VEC Members asked to attend to help at cleanup and giveaway. Jess will set up a tent and ask DPW to deliver tables for distribution of seedlings and herb packets from Morgan Farm. ○ Facebook flyer has been posted and shared in various groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The event will occur, subject to NJ Health code updates or restrictions on Saturday 4/24/2021 from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. • Jess will ask if we can have mulch delivered for the garden, if needed. • Jess will print out Waiver forms for volunteers. • The event is rain or shine.
	b) Scout Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mike has been in contact with Sam Cunniff, a CGHS senior who is working towards her Gold Award. She requires 80 hours of service for completion. ○ Sam will be co-hosting two staggered groups of girl scouts (15 to 20 in each group) that will attend our cleanup to collect natural items from the woods for the construction of fairy houses. ○ Sam will set up a sample fairy house and give each scout a list of items to find in the woods for their houses. ○ The VEC scheduled a ribbon cutting for the fairy house tour on 6/15/2021 at 10 a.m. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up at May meeting.

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Via Internet Conferencing**

	<p>c) Verona Recycling Videos:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sarah (cardboard) and Christen (commingled) need post-production work on videos. ○ Sarah will look for free music sites for background music. ○ Sarah will contact Steve Neale and Boy Scout leadership (through Sean) seeking students that can edit videos. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update next meeting.
	<p>d) Sustainable Verona Update: Frank/Kari</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Sustainable Verona Meeting was cancelled for April. ○ The Community Garden Ribbon Cutting Event occurred on 4/9/21. In attendance were both Township and School officials as well as the Garden Committee, Sustainable NJ and local master gardeners who will serve as consultants. ○ A lottery drawing for the 30 beds will occur on 4/15/21. ○ An orientation for the garden will occur on 5/1/21. ○ The garden will commence planting this spring. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frank and Kari give updates at each meeting.
5.	Ordinance Updates	
	<p>a) Gas-Powered Leaf Blower Ordinance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jess drafted a memo for review to send to the council, with VEC recommendations for limitations on commercially delivered services using gas powered leaf blowers. ○ The memo outlines health risks associated with the use of GLB's and recommends that appropriate seasons and hours for use be set forth in an ordinance. ○ The ordinance does not restrict or limit use by residents. ○ Councilman Ryan recommended sending a request for this subject to be added to the Council's New Business portion of their agenda at their soonest possible meeting. ○ MOTION to approve VEC Memo to the Council on Recommendations for a Gas-Powered Leaf Blower Ordinance: Jess; Second: Martin. ○ APPROVAL: All Members Present AYE. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sean will send to the Council and Manager ASAP. • Update next meeting.
	<p>b) Mini Cell Towers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jessica spoke with Manager Cavallo about the need to implement a mini cell tower ordinance. ○ Mr. Cavallo had a meeting scheduled to discuss this with a specialist and Deputy Mayor Roman during the last week of March. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ordinance is a work in progress. • Updates as they become available
	<p>c) Land Use Ordinance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Manager Cavallo and Zoning Administrator Mike DeCarlo are in the process of drafting a new Land Use Ordinance. ○ No further updates are available. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ordinance is a work in progress. • Updates as they become available.
6.	Plan Review	
	<p>a) 27 Ozone Avenue, Verona NJ.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The applicant proposes an addition which will exceed total improved lot coverage, maximum allowable building height and will encroach into the side yard setback. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VEC PRC was emailed to the appropriate Board Secretary prior to this meeting.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The property was over on maximum allowable coverage prior to the proposed addition and has multiple ancillary structures such as a pool, two patio areas, a deck, and a detached garage in the rear yard. VEC calculated proposed lot coverage of 52.8% when a maximum of 40% is permitted. ○ The relocation of two A/C units should be provided on the plans. ○ PRC recommended that the applicant explain whether the gravel area served to help with drainage. ○ MOTION to approve VEC PRC Memo 27 Ozone Avenue: Sean; Second: Jess. ○ APPROVAL: All Members Present AYE. 	
	<p>b) 8 Newman Avenue, Verona NJ.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The applicant proposes to widen the driveway apron to 24 feet, which exceeds the maximum permitted width. ○ The plans provided did not included all improvements on the site currently and the VEC recommends that the Applicant submit updated survey to assess current coverage on the site. ○ MOTION to approve VEC PRC Memo 8 Newman Avenue: Sean; Second: Mike. ○ APPROVAL: All Members Present AYE. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● VEC PRC was emailed to the appropriate Board Secretary prior to this meeting.
7.	New Business	
	<p>a) Nomination of Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It is statutory that the Township Manager appoints the Chairperson of the VEC. ○ The VEC votes internally for the expressed purpose of finding consensus to inform the Manager for his or her determination of these appointments. ○ Nominations were sought; Sean nominated Jessica Pearson to serve as Chairperson for 2021-2022. ○ Chairperson asks for other nominations. None are heard. ○ MOTION to Recommend Jessica Pearson as Chairperson for 2021-2022 year: Sean; Second: Sarah. ○ APPROVAL: All Members Present AYE. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sean will send notice to the Township Clerk and Manager of the recommendation/ selection of Officers for the 2021-2022 year following our 5/12/21 meeting after the minutes are approved. ● The Verona Town Council will be reviewing rosters of various committees and commissions in their June Meeting
	<p>b) Nomination of Vice Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Nominations were sought: Jess nominated Sean DiBartolo to serve as Vice Chairperson for 2021-2022. ○ Chairperson asks for other nominations. None are heard. ○ MOTION to Elect Sean DiBartolo as Vice Chair for 2021-2022 year: Jess; Second: Mike. ○ APPROVAL: All Members Present AYE. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sean will send notice to the Township Clerk and Manager of the recommendation/ selection of Officers for the 2021-2022 year following our 5/21/21 meeting after the minutes are approved. ● Mike Auteri will continue as Webmaster and Sarah O'Farrell will continue as Social Media Lead. ● Frank Ceccacci will continue as liaison to Sustainable Verona.

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	<p>c) Review of Standing Rules</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The VEC reviews its standing rules every 2 years. ○ Rules were updated to reflect new open public meeting statement. ○ Rules were updated to reflect review at the April meeting, every 2 years to coincide with election of commissioners. ○ Rules were amended to recommend, rather than elect, a Chair to the Manager. ○ MOTION to approve new Standing Rules: Sean; Second: Martin. ○ APPROVAL: All Members Present AYE. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standing Rules of the VEC will be distributed to all active members.
	<p>d) White Tail Deer Webinar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sarah will be attending a Rutgers webinar that addresses NJ's white tailed deer population. ○ She plans to write an article for our website and discuss at May meeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on 5/12/21.
<p>8.</p>	<p>Adjournment: 9:02 p.m. Next Meeting Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at 7 p.m.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Via Internet Conference