

Members Present (Quorum Established at Four or More Members)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessica Pearson (Chair/Planning Board Liaison)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fuad Dahan	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sean DiBartolo (Vice Chair/Plan Review)	<input type="checkbox"/> Brooke Berardo	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sarah Yauch O'Farrell	<input type="checkbox"/> Anthony Castillo (Alternate 1)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kari Baureis (Sustainable Verona Liaison)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Erdal Turnacioglu (Alternate 2)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Auteri	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cynthia Holland (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: a) Nate Greenstein, 29 Grove Avenue: expressed support for an invasive species ordinance and has been battling the encroachment of bamboo from a neighboring property.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Member of the public spoke during discussion of invasive species ordinance.
3.	Approval of July 13, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MOTION to Approve: Sean; Second: Kari. 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) Website Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Michael is in the process of updating the website to allow for more flexibility and page additions. Water conservation will get its own page and requires uploading information. Fuad is working on compiling more information. Treasured Trees will get its own page; Jess reviewed treasured trees – has pictures and information for upload and will send to Michael. Jessica drafted a short description of the two new parks that Verona has purchased and sent to Mike for upload to the Natural Verona page. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updates when they become available. Jess will find out who Fuad should contact for water usage data.
	b) Treasured Tree Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jess did an inventory check and took pictures of the Treasured Trees from an old inventory list. Many of the trees were removed and some existing trees require new tags or new expandable screws. The VEC approved purchasing new tags for those that require replacement Michael and Sean will investigate UV resistant stickers that can be adhered to the tags so that people can instantly access our website page on Treasured Trees. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow up at when more information becomes available. Jess will contact Steve Neale to initiate a purchase order. Jess will share photos and information with Michael for the website.
	c) Sustainable Verona (Kari)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updates at each meeting.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SV chairperson: Danielle Zink is deciding when and how often to hold meetings. September meeting was cancelled, and October meeting is in the process of being scheduled ○ Jonathan Hayter and other members went to the West Essex Trail to kill lanternflies with a small group of SV members. They would like to continue these outings with more participants. ○ Discussion followed on Lanternfly outings with scout organizations and education on the lanternfly and how to identify and scrape their eggs off trees. 	
	<p>d) Scout Project (Sean)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Eagle Scout candidate is planning to build and install an extension to the planked walkway at the Peckman Trail. This installation seeks to connect an area that has been divided by the formation of a stream bed that flows into the Peckman River. ○ Sean displayed a plan that identified the planned installation site and will continue to oversee some of the details of the project. ○ Sean will recommend that the boardwalk is properly anchored to ensure that flood waters will not wash it away during intense storm activity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates as they become available.
	<p>e) Stormwater RSIS Rules (Tabled)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Next SIAB meeting is scheduled for 9/15/2022. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up at when more information becomes available.
5.	Ordinance Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
	<p>a) Tree Ordinance Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Zoning Code Officer Mike DeCarlo presented a list of suggested updates to the ordinance at the 7/25/2022 Town Council meeting. ○ The changes included hiring a forester via a shared service agreement, requiring that all tree contractor companies register with the Township to conduct business within the Township. In doing so, they agree to the terms of the Tree Ordinance and can have their registration revoked if they abuse the rules. ○ Finally, a suggestion may be made to allow for the removal of: Tree of Heaven and perhaps Ash Trees, without fees or mitigation due to their susceptibility to pests like the Lanternfly and the Ash borer. ○ Pending introduction. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates as they become available.
	<p>b) Cell Tower Ordinance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Planning Board reviewed the Zoning Code update for Cell Towers on 8/25/2022. ○ Recommendations will be forwarded to the Council for their consideration including the moderation of large cell tower height, the prohibition tower leases on Verona's ROSI (Recreation and Open Space Inventory) properties and clarification of which land use board hears these cases. ○ The Council will likely finalize the ordinance at their next meeting with revisions to follow. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates as they become available.
	<p>c) Invasive Species Ordinance Recommendation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The VEC has been contacted numerous times on certain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sean and Jessica will sign the document and forward to the

**Regular Meeting Minutes:
Wednesday, September 14, 2022, at 7 p.m.
Via Internet Conferencing**

	<p>invasive and destructive species within the Township of Verona.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Species that the VEC recommends for planting regulations, control, or removal include the Tree of Heaven, Bamboo (running and clumping), Oriental Bittersweet, Poison, English and Boston Ivy, and Japanese Knotweed. Although some of these species aren't actively planted by residents (Japanese Knotweed, Bittersweet, or Poison Ivy), the Commission feels that removal should be required ○ These species have a high spread threshold and are destructive to both the local ecology, native species, homes, infrastructure like roads, walkways and water and drainage utilities and accessory structures. ○ MOTION to approve VEC Invasive Species Ordinance Recommendation to be sent to the Verona Town Council: Sarah; Second: Michael ○ APPROVAL: All other Members Present AYE. ○ NOT IN FAVOR: None. ○ ABSTAIN: None. 	<p>Town Council for their consideration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Updates as they become available.
6.	Plan Review: None	
7.	New Business:	
	<p>a) September/October Cleanup at Park Place</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cleanup will occur on Saturday, 10/15/2022 from 9 to 11 p.m. ○ Events related to eradicating lanternflies can occur any weekend morning subject to short notice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jess will take a picture of the site and send information to Mike to form an e-flyer. ● Sean will form an e-signup sheet.
	<p>b) School Outreach/Poster Contest/High School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Members discuss which projects to move forward with for the Fall and Winter. ○ Sean suggests that we schedule projects to be due around Earth Day rather than on Walk/Roll To School Day. ○ Walk/Roll to School Day is Wednesday, 10/12/2022 and the VEC will be sending the Council and the BOE information to help publicize the event. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Updates as they become available.
	<p>c) Invasive Species Tour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discussion of a potential map with pictures of invasive species was made to enable a self-guided tour to help identify those species. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sarah will locate the species in public places and take pictures so that we can formulate a map
8.	<p>Adjournment: 8:29 p.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Next Meeting Wednesday, October 12, 2022 at 7 p.m. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Via Internet Conference.