

Members Present (Quorum Established at Four or More Members)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessica Pearson (Chair/Planning Board Liaison)	<input 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.	• None.
2.	Public Comment Period:	• No public members present.
3.	Approval of December 14, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes: • MOTION to Approve: Mike; Second Sarah: • APPROVAL: All Members Present AYE. • Abstentions: None.	• Sean will email approved minutes to Township Clerk Kiernan and Steve Neale.
4.	Updates:	
	a) Poster/PSA Contest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jess and Brooke have finalized the guidelines for teachers/administrators at the elementary schools, HBW and VHS which clearly explain the project's terms. Sheets have been emailed to all appropriate teachers and club proctors. ○ The terms of the elementary contest are as follows: All elementary 4th graders will produce a poster and their parents will take a digital pic to send to their teacher. The teacher will share a google drive folder with us for review of the posters and to choose each winner. ○ HBW and VHS will submit a digital project to their club teacher who will share a google drive file with us so that we can review and choose a winner from each of the two clubs. ○ The projects will be due 3/24/2023 so that VEC Members can choose the winners and the Township Clerk can prepare for a short awards ceremony at 4/17/2023 Council meeting in celebration of Earth Day. 	• Updates as they become available.
	b) Website Updates (Tabled) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mike is working towards uploading and designing this new information to our website. He wants to redesign to make uploading new educational information easier and more organized through a module that he has developed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates when they become available. • Jess will forward pics of treasured trees to Mike for the creation of a new page.
	c) Treasured Tree Program (Tabled)	• Follow up at when more information becomes available.
	d) Sustainable Verona (Kari)	• Updates at each meeting.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SV met on meeting on 1/4/2022. ○ Discussed a curb alert for waste management- bulk items. ○ Green business recognition to become a focus. ○ Discussed projects of interest and goals for upcoming year. ○ Discussed actions to maintain Bronze Certification and build towards Silver Certification. ○ Discussed Cleanup event scheduling and how we can possibly work together to invite a larger volunteer base. 	
	<p>e) Scout Project (Sean)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bridge at the Peckman Trails is in place but is still being finalized. ○ Jess has not yet received answers from Dr. Lanzo on any security cameras or lighting that may exist behind FN Brown. Also, no answer on any prohibitions to accessing the Trail through School Property. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates as they become available.
	<p>f) Stormwater RSIS Rules (Tabled)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Next SIAB meeting is scheduled for 3/16/2023. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up at when more information becomes available.
5.	Ordinance Updates	
	<p>a) Tree Ordinance Updates and VEC Memo:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Council discussed an updated ordinance at their 1/9/2023 meeting. ○ Council is planning on introducing the Ordinance in February and seems amenable to hiring an independent professional (Forester, LTE/Arborist) to make tree health assessments. They are reviewing some cost estimates. ○ All tree removal companies must register with the Township in order to conduct business in Verona. The registration may be suspended or revoked if the company doesn't comply with the ordinance or falsifies tree permit information. ○ The final memo was sent to the Manager on 1/4/2023. Jess asks if all members have had the opportunity to review the memo. ○ MOTION to approve the VEC 1/4/2023 Memo on the Proposed Tree Ordinance updates: Sarah; Second: Sean ○ APPROVAL: All other Members Present: AYE ○ ABSTAIN: None. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The memo was emailed to the Township Manager and Township Clerk on the morning of 1/4/2023 • Updates as they become available.
	<p>b) Planting List Review Memo:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The VEC is tasked with creating a yearly memo to the Verona Town Council that states any recommended changes or updates to the Township Planting List in conjunction with Chapter 150, Zoning Ordinance, Article XI, Section (11.7): Plant Selection and Placement. ○ The VEC reviewed the list and have found that no changes are necessary. ○ MOTION to approve the VEC Suggested Updates to the Planting list 2023; Article XI §150-11.7: Sarah; Second: Sean 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jess will email the memo to the Clerk, the Council, and the Manager after the meeting • Updates as they become available.

**Regular Meeting Minutes:
 Wednesday, January 11, 2023, at 7 p.m.
 Via Internet Conferencing**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ APPROVAL: All other Members Present: AYE ○ ABSTAIN: None. 	
	<p>c) Invasive Species Ordinance Recommendation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pending review and discussion by the Council. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates as they become available.
6.	Plan Review	
	<p>a) 1 Sunset pending</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pending resubmission. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VEC PRC will review upon receipt.
7.	New Business	
	<p>a) Project Ideas for 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Think of ideas for educating the public. ○ Think of projects that we can discuss. ○ Sarah suggests invasive species tour with video. ○ Add Geocache at the Community Garden. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a short list of achievable actions that the VEC can take on 2023.
	<p>b) Earth Day Clean up Event: Saturday, April 22, 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 9 to 11 a.m. at Peckman Park- Brookside Terrace. Sustainable Verona's Green Team. ○ Ask Teresa Trapp if she wants to donate any seedlings for planting at Peckman Park during cleanup event. ○ No Tree give-away this year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jess will send Mike Information and Sean will create sign-up link.
	<p>c) March Madness Clean up Event: Saturday, March 25, 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 9 to 11 a.m. West Essex Trail in Verona (between Arnold Way and Fairview Avenue.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jess will send Mike Information and Sean will create sign-up link.
8.	<p>Adjournment: 8:00 p.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Next Meeting Wednesday, February 8, 2023 at 7 p.m. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Via Internet Conference.