

Members Present (Quorum Established at Four or More Members)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessica Pearson (Chair/Planning Board Liaison)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adam Bulger	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sean DiBartolo (Vice Chair/Plan Review)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kelly Peña	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sarah Yauch O'Farrell	<input type="checkbox"/> Open Seat (Alternate I)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fuad Dahan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jean Deo (Alternate II)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Walter Steinmann	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Christopher Tamburro (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:	• None
3.	Approval of April 9, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes: • MOTION to Approve: Sarah; Second: Adam. • APPROVAL: All Members Present, AYE. • Abstentions: None.	• Sean will email approved minutes to Township Clerk Kiernan and Public Information Officer Northrop and post them to the VEC website.
4.	Updates:	
	a) Peckman Kiosk Plans (On hold) ○ Jess, Walter, and Sean still need to meet to discuss content and design.	• Lock replacement awaiting further discussion. • Meetings should occur for layout and content between Sean, Walter, and Jess.
	b) Newsletter Update: ○ Adam: Cover: Winners of the Poster Contest; Story on Sarah. ○ Adam/Jess: Coverage of Native Plant Sale- Incorporate Noella's input on Native Plants. ○ Sarah and Kelly discuss some invasive species plants that overtake native species: Honeysuckle, Chinese wisteria, English Ivy, Vinca. ○ Sarah: Pictorial story on James Waugh Eagle Scout project; focus on cleanup pics from newly planned June 1 st event at Peckman Park (between Commerce Court and Brookside Terrace). ○ Adam/Walter: For Fall edition: the weed in review- pics of weeds and task readers with identifying them ○ For Fall Edition- Invite readers to submit pics of wild animals in Verona backyards. We will use the VEC's general email account for response.	• Newsletter should go out around the first or second week of June.
	c) Sustainable Verona ○ No updates on Sustainable.	• Updates as available.
	d) Junior Commissioners' Update ○ Trey: Had attempted to set up a cleanup with students, but exams and extracurricular events delayed action. Wants to set up a cleanup to collaborate with the Ecology Club. Will collaborate with the VEC and keep us posted. ○ Noella: Was not present at the meeting.	• Updates as available.

**Regular Meeting Minutes:
Wednesday, May 14, 2025, at 7 p.m.
Via Internet Conferencing**

	e) June 1, 2025 Cleanup: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We'll meet at 10am at the end of Brookside Terrace. ○ Jess will create a post for sharing on Social Media (post to include our work with James on his Eagle Scout project) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jess encourages all members and junior members to participate.
5.	Ordinance Updates	
	a) Tree Ordinance (Tabled until new updates) Last update was in January 2025.	Updates when they are available.
6.	Plan Review	
	a) 257 Pompton Avenue <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Applicant seeks impervious coverage variance to construct an addition, expansion of building to include rental units on 2nd story, and parking lot for office use on 1st floor. Plans include removal of 15 trees (in addition to multiple trees removed without permits last year) and the replanting of trees and a rain garden on site. ○ VEC recommended better details as to the tree replanting plan and the bioretention basin, as no plant or tree labels were shown. ○ Requested the removal of the euonymus alatus from planting list, as it is an invasive species. ○ The plans did not clearly list the net changes in impervious surface, and it is therefore unknown whether the sizing of the bioretention basin will be amply sized for runoff mitigation. ○ The drainage area being conveyed towards the bioretention basin was not documented. ○ Most of the runoff for the site is directed towards the public right-of-way system, offsite. There were no design attempts to manage the runoff onsite. ○ MOTION to approve VEC PRC for 257 Pompton Avenue: Walter; Second: Sarah. ○ APPROVAL: All other Members Present AYE. ○ ABSTAIN: None. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VEC PRC memo was emailed to the appropriate Board prior to this meeting.
7.	New Business	
	a) Cleanups and Future Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Native Plant sale ended up with 1,307 plant orders and about \$16,000 worth of wholesale plantings. It was a major success. ○ Sunday 6/1/2025 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Peckman Park will be substituted for normal National Trails Day cleanup event. We can meet at the end of Brookside Terrace. Our main event will be to help James Waugh with delineating a walking trail. ○ Sarah and Kelly: Invasive Plant Walk; map and plan route; in the works. 	Recommended for all members.

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	b) State Legislation in support of composting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food waste plan (A2090) and Community Garden Composting (A2102) are either in committee or awaiting introduction on the floor. Verona passed a resolution in support of both 2025-101 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plans in the works
	c) New Business: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sarah mentioned replacing the Douglas Fir in Town Center. with a Caucasian spruce. She wants some native replacement trees and will contact the Shade Tree Commission to make recommendations. Walter is resurrecting the recycling at the Verona Pool. He donated the proceeds of can recycling to the Rec. Dept last year. This year, Jess will check with our CFO to see if the VEC can simply purchase native plants to place on Town Property with any proceeds. Walter suggests a plant tour for the kids at the Verona Pool this season to be hosted by Sarah and Kelly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plans in the works
8.	Adjournment: 8:21 p.m. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Next Meeting Wednesday, June 11, 2025. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Via Internet Conference.
9.	Meeting Minutes Approved: 6/11/2025. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jessica Pearson, Chair, Verona Environmental Commission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">