

South Plainfield Environmental Commission
Official Minutes - January 11, 2023
Reorganization Meeting

1. Call to Order

Notice having been filed with the S.P. Observer and TapInto SP, Chairwoman Dorothy Miele called the Environmental Commission meeting to order in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act at 7:35 pm.

Present: Dorothy Miele (chairwoman), Tom Walsh, John Ferguson, Debra Leporino, Genevieve Helbo, Melanie Mott (council liaison) and Rich Houghton (planning board liaison).

Alternate members present:

Associate members present: Lisa Roseo (secretary)

Others: Dr. A. Tempel (environmental specialist)

Absent: Adam Butrico (e)

2. Adopt By-Laws

Dorothy started by stating our reorganization agenda is following the By-laws we adopted when the commission was formed. Last year we had questions about whether the commission chairperson should be elected rather than appointed. This is due to the lapse in official reappointment by the governing body. Apparently our By-laws were not in line with other Boro committees as well. We have not received a response to our question. There are other clarifications with our By-laws that we need to discuss at a separate meeting. For now, Tom made a motion to approve the current By-laws, seconded by John Ferguson, all were in favor of approval.

3. Elect Vice-Chairperson

Dorothy Miele nominated John Ferguson, seconded by Tom Walsh, all in favor. There were no other nominations.

4. Appoint Committee Chairpersons

Dorothy and Dr. Tempel discussed combining Site Plan Review and Land Use on the agenda. No one objected. We will need to update the By-laws.

Dorothy's name will be added to the Historical Sites Preservation Committee.

Tom suggested removing his name from the Stormwater Advisory Committee.

Debra will be added to the Clean Communities Committee

Public Information & Technology - Dr. Tempel said she could use help from someone tech-savvy and familiar with Facebook posts. We have not heard from Chris Cioffi in some time; Lisa does send Chris the minutes. We will ask Adam at next month's meeting.

Jonathan Walezak has asked to be appointed as an Associate Member. He will remain active with the 'Creative Arts Committee'. Everyone was in favor.

Dorothy recognized that new member Genevieve Helbo may need some time to find an area of interest within our commission. Dorothy mentioned the SPCCC can use help. Dorothy and Dr. Tempel explained the objectives. Genevieve said yes, she would like to be part of the SPCCC.

5. Set Schedule of Meetings

The meetings will remain on the second Wednesday of each month @7:30 pm.

6. Adjournment

The reorganization meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lisa Roseo
Environmental Commission Secretary