

Teaneck Environmental Commission
Annual Report 2014 and 2015
Completed June 6 2016

INTRODUCTION

This report for 2015 was prepared in accordance with Township Ordinance Section 2-125 and NJSA 40:56 A-4 which require the Environmental Commission (EC) to make not less than annual reports to the Township Council in writing. This report includes data collected in 2014 on site plan reviews, but the report was never completed. In this report information is provided on the site plan reviews for both 2014 and 2015, (but only the data for 2015 have been summarized), conducted by the Commission as provided by the Municipal Land Use Law (MLUL) for Environmental Commissions which have an Environmental Resource Inventory (ERI), as does Teaneck. Data are shown on tables appended to this report and discussed below. Additional information contained in this report includes training, grants, projects worked on during the year, Commission budget and expenditures, goals for 2016, recognitions and acknowledgements.

The Commission provides advice to the Council via the Manager on environmental issues. It may conduct special Township-wide meetings to inform the public on specific environmental issues and get public input. Below is a summary of the many activities performed by and monitored by the Commission during 2015.

SITE PLAN REVIEW (*Allowed as provided for by MLUL, if Environmental Commission has an Environmental Resource Inventory, which Teaneck has*).

33 Plans refused by the zoning officer were received for preview, but only six needed full Commission review. However, none of the six that needed review were received by the Commission. See Table 1 in the Appendix. Three plans were previewed from the Planning Board. One was requested for full review but never received. The Commission also reviewed one DEP application for Englewood Pond dredging, one for permits for River Commons in Teaneck, and one for Anderson Street bridge supports.

COMMISSIONER TRAINING:

None in 2015.

GRANTS

There were no new grant proposals made in 2015, nor any follow-ups.

The commission assisted the Hackensack River Greenway Advisory Board and Friends of the Greenway with a grant proposal.

STATUS OF 2015 GOALS CARRIED OVER FROM 2013, SINCE THERE WAS NO REPORT IN 2014

1. Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan

- Pass a Complete Streets Ordinance - Numerous meetings and conversations with Township officials but no action by Council.
- Advocate for implementation of other plan goals (signage, street improvements) - No action
- Explore creation of steering committee on complete streets and the master plan – Chin (while he was on the commission) Rhodes and Kissileff worked on this. Ultimately a draft plan was sent to Council in November 2015.

2. Assist Hackensack River Greenway Advisory Board

Hackensack River Greenway AB report

Our main project this year was developing plans for ADA trail at 640 River Road. With Friends and the help of the NJ Land Conservancy, we were able to get grants to the township of \$30,000 from Bergen County Open Space Trust Fund, and \$60,000 from NJ DEP Greenacres for the project. In the fall we hired Princeton Hydro to spray the invasives, mostly Japanese Knotwood. They sprayed twice and will come again in early spring to check on the results. We had Tahawas Trails design the trail and they have submitted a proposal for construction in the early spring. Rohlers has designed a sitting area based on the plans from Mary Topolosky. We are waiting for construction proposals for this. Bergen Fencing installed a fence along the stream bed where there is a significant drop. Teaneck Garden Club supplied 12 native plants which was transplanted at the lower level. In the spring, native grasses and plants will be added along the fence and trail. The town council this fall approved of naming the site the *Mary Topolsky Garden and Trail*. DPW will provide the signage. Five Star Residence has agreed to provide continued maintenance to sitting area butterfly/bird garden. Hopefully, the project will be completed in late spring of 2016.

Rich Karp and Marie Warnke attended a conference on invasive plants at the NYBG.

We met with Dick Frick and William Broughton to discuss maintenance along the trail at FDU and got agreement to open up vistas across from the benches.

We supported the purchase of 671 Pomander Walk and spoke at a hearing of the BC Open Space Fund to obtain funding.

After the 640 project is completed, our next goal is improving the trail at Riverside Drive.

3. Sustainability

Advocate for Sustainability through proposed legislation and start up of the new Advisory Board on Sustainability - No appointments, and this advisory board has gone quiescent.

Look for opportunities to restore full plastic recycling Reduced tonnage attributable to market forces and drop in oil prices.

Look at education programs for the public. No action

Plastic bag ordinance was sent to Council in September 2015

4. Site Plans

Develop a checklist for site plan reviews based on LEED principles. This was deemed unnecessary (as many are already in the Township code) and was dropped

5. Storm Water Management

- Advocate and educate to reduce storm water runoff. No action other than support of current program.
- Update Building Code. No action as it is not in EC purview.
- Work with Zoning Board and Planning Board, continuing through EC site plan review.

6. Trees and Parkland

- Consider a Tree Protection Ordinance for private trees – A memorandum was sent to the Shade Tree Advisory Board and the Board of Adjustment
- Advocate for pedestrian access to Overpeck County Park from Teaneck –Continuing but no results.

The following information was received from Fran Wilson, Director of Public Works
2015: 10 trees planted, 168 removed
2014: 0 trees planted, 231 removed

PERSONNEL (end of term)

Michael Rogovin (Chair, until June 30, 2015 resigned)

Harry R. Kissileff Chair, (June 30, 2016)

Philip Rhodes (Vice Chair, MOST representative, June 30, 2018)

Bettina Hempel-Gilbert (Secretary, June 30, 2017)

Don Daume Site plan reviewer, monitors recycling (June 30, 2018)

Keith Kaplan (Planning Board Member, June 30, 2018)

Roslyn Turner (June 30, 2017)

Aryeh Meir (June 30, 2016)

Paul Hutt (First alternate, June 30, 2017)

Peter Goldman (Second alternate, June 30, 2016)

Mohammed Hammeddudin (Council Liaison, began February, 2010)

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Environmental Commission acknowledges with gratitude the help of William Broughton, Township Manager, and Maureen Ince, secretary of the Engineering Department, for keeping track of our files and preparing packets for each meeting. The Environmental Commission also thanks Township Engineer, Farah Gilani, for sharing her time and expertise with the Commission. The Commission also thanks Mayor Mohammed Hameeddudin, for serving as Environmental Commission liaison to the Township Council, and all members of the Council for their support of the Teaneck environment. Special thanks to Fran Wilson for his assistance regarding recycling and overseeing EC and tree planting budgets.

BUDGET

| 2015 | Requested | Actual |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| ANJEC dues | 420 | 420 |
| Training/Road Show | 250 | 0 |
| Travel for education | 80 | 0 |
| Copying material for distribution | 100 | 0 |
| Library Acquisitions | 150 | 27 |
| Total | \$ 1,000 | \$447 |

GOALS FOR 2016

1. Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan

- Pass a Complete Streets Ordinance
- Explore creation of steering committee on complete streets and the master plan

2. Sustainability

- Advocate for Sustainability through proposed legislation and restart of the Advisory Board on Sustainability
- Look for opportunities to develop plastic bag ordinance
- Look at education programs for the public

3. Site Plans

- Get site plan review on track to that EC gets to review site plans it deems need full Commission review.

4. Storm Water Management

- Advocate and Educate to reduce storm water runoff, including
- Requirements for variances
- Work with Zoning Board and Planning Board

5. Trees and Parkland

- Consider a Tree Protection Ordinance for private trees
- Advocate for pedestrian access to Overpeck County Park from Teaneck
- Participate in Arbor Day Celebration.

6. Open Space preservation

- Advocate for MOST funds to be used to preserve open space

Site Plan Review summary

| Zoning Board # (2015) | Address | Block | Lot | Description | Coding Per EC Checklist | Full EC "Official" Review |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------|-----|--|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 | 1272 Loraine Avenue | 5714 | 9 | Add New Second Floor | A2a, A7, B1 | |
| 2 | 1504 Jefferson Street | 1202 | 32 | New Front and Rear Additions + Deck | A2a, A7, B1 | |
| 3 | 1302 Dickerson Road | 2102 | 14 | Rebuild Fire Damaged Home | A2a, A7, B1 | |
| 6 | 992 Phelps Road | 4015 | 17 | New 2-Story Rear Addition | A7, A2a, B1 | |
| 7 | 1500 Queen Anne Road | 5001 | 1 | New School/Day Care | A3, B 2,3,6 | |
| 8 | 1306 Mercedes Street | 1713 | 2 | 2-Story Rear & Side Addition, Porch & Deck | A7, A2a, B4,5,6 | |
| 9 | 1663 Ardsley Court | 5506 | 7 | Extend Rear Roof & Interior Ren | A7, A2a, B1 | |
| 10 | 1410 Somerset Gate | 1708 | 9 | 1st Floor Addition, Exterior Deck, Generator | A7, A2a, B1 | |
| 11 | 882 Grange Road | 2909 | 14 | 2nd Floor Addition Over Garage | A7, A2a, B1 | |
| 12 | 387 Maitland Avenue | 2005 | 14 | Porch, 2-Story Addition, Patio, Generator | A2a, B4, 6 | |
| 13 | 720 Dearborn Street | 1208 | 1 | Swim pool + Accessories | A7, B5 | |
| 14 | 501 Reis Avenue | 1720 | 5 | 1st & 2nd Floor Addition, A/A, Generator | A7, B6 | |
| 21 | 871 Williams Avenue | 813 | 1 | Add to 2nd Floor | A7 | |
| 22 | 287 Warwick Avenue | 2003 | 19 | New House, 4 Trees to Go | A7 | |
| 23 | 646 Mildred Street | 3101 | 8 | Add to 1st & 2nd Floors | A7, B6 & B7 | |
| 24 | 433 Forest Avenue | 2109 | 15 | 2-Story Addition | A7, B6, B7 | |
| 32 | 811 Grange Road | 2916 | 12 | Parking Lot/ Drs Office | A7 | |
| 39 | 910 Alpine Drive | 4023 | 9 | 1st & 2nd Floor Addition + Deck | A2a, B6 | |

| | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------|------|------------|---|--------------------|--|
| 42 | 1321 Hastings Street | 1719 | 7 | 1st Floor Kitchen Extension | A7, A2a | |
| 43 | 88 Audubon Road | 4024 | 7 | 2nd Floor Addition Over Garage | A7, A2a | |
| 48 | 1438 Queen Anne Road | 5005 | 8 | Add Rear 1st Floor Work Room/ BSMT | A2a, B4, B5, B6 | |
| 49 | 788 Winthrop Road | 1111 | 11 | 2-1st Floor, 2nd Floor, Porch, Stairs | A2a, B4, B5, B6 | |
| 52 | 1362 Taft Road | 2104 | 6 | 1st Floor Side, Rear Addition, Deck, Shed + more | A2a, B1, B6, A7 | |
| 53 | 1662 Buckingham Road | 1103 | 35 | Portico, Deck, Pergola, Walkway | A2a, A7, B6, A7 | |
| 54 | 580 Warwick Avenue | 1808 | 10 | 1st & 2nd Addition + Deck | A2a, A7, B6 | |
| 58 | 255 Churchill Road | 1906 | 17 | Add 2nd Floor Over Garage | A2a, A7, B5 | |
| 59 | 1100 Bromley Avenue | 1507 | 18 | Add Foyer, 1st + 2nd Floor Expansion + Deck | A2a, A7 | |
| 61 - ZB 2013 - 52 EC asked to do a full review Daume's records indicate we never were given the opportunity | 764 New Bridge Road | 1001 | 6.01 | Apts over Retail (Dropped from project) | A3, B4,5,6,7 | |
| 62 | 745 Redmond Street | 4201 | 10 | 1st Floor Addition, 2nd Floor Dormer | A2a, A7 | |
| ZB 2014 - 57 | 485 Maple Avenue | 815 | 2 | Reno Porch, New Steps | A2a, A7 | |
| ZB 2014 - 58 | 706 Wendel Place | 1713 | 15 | New Home (already rerected?) | A7 | |
| ZB 2014 - 59 | 1332 Somerset Road | 1715 | 13- Jan | New Staris, Wall, Fence, Expand Drive | A7 | |

| |
|---|
| |
| Code |
| A |
| A1 - New construction on vacant lots |
| A2 - Alterations to existing buildings - a) same use b) different use |
| A3 - Replacement/conversion of existing buildings to another use |
| A4 - Antenna installation |
| A5 - Landfill cleaning and capping (Overpeck Park) |
| A6 - Subdivision |
| A7 - Upon Review, no environmental effects |
| A8 - Merge lots |
| |
| B - Problems/Issues |
| B1 - No environmental impact (after review) |
| B2 - Parking inadequate |
| B3 - Sky glow and/or inadequate presentation of lighting plans |
| B4 - Crowding |
| B5 - Excessive lot coverage |
| B6 - Storm water run-off |
| B7 - Other |

| Planning Board # (2015) | Address | Block | Lot | Description | Coding Per EC Checklist | Full EC "Official" Review |
|--------------------------------|---|--------------|------------|---|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 | Glenpointe - Glenwood Avenue & East Oakdene | 4403 | 1 | New Dual Branded Hotel, 13-Story | A1, B7 | |
| 4 | 1400 Palisade Avenue | 5011 | 1 | New Restaurant | A7, A2a | |
| 15 | 321 Teaneck Road | 3602 | 2.01 | Convert Interior from Office to Medical | A7, A3 | |

Code Same as above

Residential Recycling in Tons

| 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Battery | 5.6 | 17.26 | 13.84 | 13.84 | 0.87 | 1.35 | 1.35 | .79 | 1.38 |
| Building Materials | | 270 | | 270 | | 4091 | | 0 | 0 |
| Compostable | 23344.37 | 11689.75 | 24088.3 | 21193.5 | 15334.46 | 24965.85 | 24860.92 | 14922.02 | 15978.55 |
| Chemical | 104.11 | 111.65 | 90.65 | 90.65 | 71.95 | 76.51 | 88.59 | 73.66 | 72.88 |
| Electronic | 2.05 | 39.87 | 16.52 | 16.52 | 68.29 | 73.63 | 94.29 | 67.54 | 71.79 |
| Glass | 577.54 | 616.84 | 660.63 | 660.63 | 629.75 | 645.4 | 715.49 | 718.02 | 712.46 |
| Metal | 202.21 | 199.65 | 188.76 | 188.76 | 189.75 | 200.76 | 210.63 | 220 | 248.19 |
| Paper | 2104.7 | 2019.93 | 1893.26 | 1893.26 | 1674.25 | 1831.77 | 1879.82 | 1881.8 | 1955.27 |
| Plastic | 124.21 | 132.14 | 141.56 | 141.56 | 134.95 | 254.61 | 286.45 | 290.69 | 13.10 |
| Textile | 60.97 | 42.59 | 45.36 | 45.36 | 28.2 | 21.19 | 30.06 | 25.25 | 33.09 |
| Tires | 1.15 | 7.95 | 0.21 | 0.21 | 0.35 | 0.27 | | .36 | .61 |

Commercial Recycling in Tons

| 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Battery | 0.24 | 0.54 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 0.28 | 0.3 | 0.08 | 0.06 | 1.88 |
| Building Materials | 3054.71 | 1294.94 | 1984.9 | 1984.9 | 595.29 | 851.8 | 0 | 1503.03 | 2458.62 |
| Compostables | 2.5 | 129.84 | 97.5 | 97.5 | 12.78 | 0.01 | 142.4 | 20.53 | 0 |
| Chemical | 2033.96 | 321.05 | 1275.98 | 1275.98 | 1474.65 | 1373.94 | 12778.58 | 1352.6 | 838.03 |
| Electronic | 0.54 | 2.62 | 2.62 | 1.25 | 1.25 | 0.15 | | 1.38 | 0.90 |
| Fluorescent Lights | | 0.04 | | 0.04 | | 0.6 | | 0 | 0 |
| Glass | 55.6 | | 35.43 | 7.36 | | 40.17 | | 88.19 | 56.10 |
| Metal | 48.53 | 7.26 | 6.64 | 2.87 | 15.69 | 2.23 | 15.57 | 29.78 | 9.09 |
| Paper | 352.64 | 183.01 | 858.21 | 858.21 | 423.64 | 373.09 | 344.71 | 735.85 | 385.23 |
| Plastic | 11.91 | 0.54 | 1.75 | 1.75 | 7.87 | 2.35 | 10.68 | 10.40 | 9.33 |
| Tires | | 1.65 | | | 1.65 | | | 0 | 0 |