



Meeting Minutes - Red Bank Environmental Commission

Location: Council Chambers, Borough Hall

Date: March 3, 2026

Time: 7:00pm - 8:30pm

LAST	FIRST	Attendance	TITLE
Godek-Johnson	Denelle	Yes	RBEC Member (Chair)
Almerini	Ana	Yes	RBEC Member (Vice-Chair)
Carlin	Scott	Yes	RBEC Member (Secretary)
Johnson	Dave	Yes	RBEC Member
Rodriguez Heyman	Paulo	Yes	RBEC Member
Leder	Jenna	Yes	RBEC Member
Massey	Megan	Yes	RBEC Member (Planning Board Liaison)
Schroder	Alix	No	RBEC Alternate #1
Sala	Luisa	No	RBEC Alternate #2
Facey-Blackwood	Nancy	Yes	RBEC Liaison to the Council
Blyskun	Helena	No	Green Team Member
McArthur	E. Pamela	No	Green Team Member
Wokas	Eric	No	Green Team Member
Trifiro	Sal	Yes	Green Team Member
Martin	Travers	No	Green Team Member
Harris	Dan	Yes	Green Team Member
Salinas	Oscar	No	Green Team Member (Parks & Rec)

Walton	Terrence	No	Green Team Member (DPU)
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Agenda Details:

1. Attendance
2. Review/approve last month's meeting minutes; remit to Borough Clerk
 - a. Jenna motion to approve, Ana 2nd. Unanimous.
3. Public/Guest Comment– no public comments
4. Current Initiatives - Round Robin
 - a. Updates from Liaisons
 - i. Council (Nancy Blackwood)
 1. Sr. Center Congressional grant. (previous payment; bioswale; deck).
 - ii. Planning Board (Megan Massey)
 1. Site Plan Review Dr. James Parker. Subdividing property. Will replace trees that are lost. Reducing their parking.
 - b. Zoning Board
 - i. Zoning Board Application--199 Broad St. Confirm a tree removal permit will be obtained for the large tree. RBEC recommends offsetting this tree with additional, native trees elsewhere on site. Tree planting locations could include the front yard and in the space between the two parking lots, which would address the "heat island" effect from having an asphalt parking lot with no trees.
 - ii. The plants identified on the proposed planting schedule are not native plants. Please update with plants reflected on the [NJ Native Plant Society's list found here](#).
 - iii. The proposed lighting uses a 4000k color temperature. RBEC recommends using lighting with a color temperature of 3000K or lower to reduce light pollution, minimize blue light, and protect nocturnal ecosystem
 - c. ~Admin
 - d. ~Miscellaneous
 - i. Annual Report
 - e. Sustainable Jersey
 - i. Certification
 - ii. Summit
 1. May 15 Summit. Early bird pricing.
<https://www.sustainablejersey.com/nc/events/>
 - f. Marine Park– no new updates.
 - g. Navesink River Subcommittee– no new updates.
 - h. Ordinances
 - i. Native Plant–Paulo
 1. Zoning and Planning Board development projects would need to use native plants.

2. Discussion of creating a broader Borough resolution to cover perennial plantings by landscapers
 3. Eatontown (site plan proposals), Montclair, Chatham, Hopewell comparison.
 4. Suggestion: Present (10 min) to Borough Council March 26th.
- ii. Night Sky–Jenna and Pam
- i. Upcoming Events
 - i. Green Fair–Wednesday, April 22. JT proposes 5-6:30, has concerns re: attendance.
 - ii. Gas-Powered Leaf Blower (GLB) Reduction–March 24, 6:30PM RPLB (Public Library). 1 hour event.
 1. Sustainable Yards, 15 m
 2. Reduce Leaf Blowers (Gas powered), 15 m
 3. Mary: Patchwork, 15 m
 - iii. Middle School Earth Day event, April 22
 1. Science Fair the same day/location?
 2. Boost Attendance:
 - a. Raffle,
 - b. sport-swap discussion
 - c. Note: Food not Bombs - Take everything but furniture
 - d. Shred Machine or secure bins - Walk through the Green Fair to the shredder. (\$1,000 rental fee)
 - e. Composters
 3. Recommendation: Table “Passport” Stickers
 4. Recommendation: Signage by the Borough
 5. Idea: Regional Earth Day Coordination for 2027
- j. Website Updates
- k. Grants
 - i. Existing Grants
 - ii. Ideas for New Grants–
 1. SJ Grant use to retrofit storm drains (reduce inlet size, etc.) <https://www.sustainablejersey.com/grants/pseg-cycle/> Applied.
 2. ANJEC Grant–\$1500 Due 4/13.
 - a. Requires 80 hours of work.
 - b. Strategy:
 - i. Riverside Gardens. Remove invasives.
 - ii. Maple Cove invasives
 - c. <https://anjec.org/category/anjec-services/grants/>
 3. Storm Water Grant from NJ DEP
- l. Food Waste and Composting
- m. Renewable Energy
 - i. RGEA
- n. Safe Drinking Water
 - i. Borough Drinking Water
 - ii. Lead in Pipes - ongoing work

- o. Site Plans Review
 - p. Stormwater and Green Infrastructure
 - q. West Westside Pollinator Garden
- 5. New Initiatives
 - a. Monmouth Parks - offer a lot of classes and events: Children's theatrical plays. A Play could be a good draw for a future Earth Day. They have Earth Day open houses. Guided nature tours. Native wildlife gardening. Lectures. Native plant workshops.
- 6. Conclusion:
 - a. Next Meeting Date/Time: April 7, 2026, 7-8:30 PM; Council Chambers
 - i. Dave motion to adjourn, Ana (2nd). Unanimous.