Keyport Environmental Commission Minutes for January 25, 2021 – Conducted Telephonically

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 8:05 by Chairman **Ken DeGroat.**

Reading of Sunshine Law

Roll Call

The following participants present: Ken DeGroat (Chairman), Dennis Fotopoulos (Council liaison), Mike Palmisano (Vice Chairman), DJ Pacheco (Member), Heather Brady (Member), Roy Jiminez (Member) Joe Sheridan (Member) Jim Aumack (Member); Michael Lane (Public).

Reorganization:

Chair Ken DeGroat stepped aside to allow Vice Chair M. Palmisano to run the meeting.

Ken DeGroat nominated for Chair; No other Candidates; Motion by R. Jiminez; J. Sheridan 2nd; Unanimous Approval.

Ken DeGroat resumed his position as Chair.

Mike Palmisano nominated for Vice-Chair; No other Candidates; Motion by R. Jiminez; J. Sheridan 2nd; Unanimous Approval.

Joe Sheridan nominated for Secretary; No other Candidates; Motion by D. Fotopoulos; K. DeGroat 2nd; Unanimous Approval.

Meeting Dates set for 2021: 4th Monday of each month: 2/22, 3/22, 4/26, 5/24, 6/28, 7/26, 8/23, 9/27, 10/25, 11/22, 12/27; No other suggested dates; Motion by R. Jiminez; K. DeGroat 2nd; Unanimous Approval.

Do we wish to eliminate the December 27th Meeting? Yes; No other response; Motion by R. Jiminez; J. Sheridan 2nd; Unanimous Approval.

Re-Appointments:

"Welcome Back" to Heather Brady and Jim Aumack as returning Commissioners; Welcome Joe Sheridan as new Commissioner.

Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Minutes of the November 23, 2020 meeting; Motion to Accept R. Jiminez; J. Sheridan 2nd; No comments/edits/revisions; Unanimously Approved.

Keyport Unified Planning Board (KUPB) Update: No updated status on KUPB applications.

Ongoing Projects:

Cedar Street Outfall Pipe: No worsening observed erosion by D. Fotopoulos at the outfall pipe on the end of Cedar Street along the east side of the bulkhead. **ACTION** on Dennis to bring up mitigating erosion situation with Borough Administrator. Consensus among members was that additional riprap deposited at the base of the outfall is needed to mitigate the erosion. Riprap already exists but it appears more is needed.

Living Shoreline Project Cedar Street: **ACTION** on Dennis to coordinate with BA/Mayor/Council to consider Living Shoreline Resolution at the next council meeting.

Complete Streets: No updated status on Complete Streets was given.

Cedar Street Dune Evergreen Tree program: The Keyport Environmental Commission work party on January 10th to continue with its second year of planting evergreen trees put out on the curb after the Holidays to fill the depression behind the growing Cedar Street Park Dune berm. The dozen trees

were tied together with hemp line and sand was scattered over them. DJ P. began discussion that the depression behind the berm may be caused by something, but other members opined that the Dune has just been growing bigger due to the flourishing of the beach grass, which has been entraining more and more sand.

Beach Park Outfall Pipe: No updated status on the Beach Park Outfall Pipe was given.

New Business:

2021 Tree Seedling Program: Ken D. discussed about the possibility of a 2021 Tree Seedling Program in the era of COVID-19.

Mike P. stated the 2020 program was a success, and thought that it would be better if more bush seedlings were offered than trees.

Jim A. said there could be issues with giving out seedlings from the school or from fire stations due to Covid-19.

Dennis F. believed the Mayor and Council may not support a tree seedling giveaway until at least the 2nd or the 3rd Quarter due to Covid-19 concerns.

Ken D. got a sense of postponing the giveaway until possibly late Summer or even the Fall. The 2021 Tree Sapling Program is tabled for now.

COA Beach Sweeps: Mike P. reported that COA Beach Sweeps have not been cancelled due to the COVID-19 Pandemic at this moment, and may occur as originally scheduled. Advanced registration will be required, as was the case with the Fall COA Beach Sweep.

New Jersey American Water Grant Program: Dennis F. requested that the Environmental Commission look over the N.J. American Water Grant Program for

possible ideas in parallel with asking Millenium Strategies Consulting. **ACTION** on Dennis F. to e-mail the N.J. American Water Grant Program information.

Browns Point Marina Presentation: ACTION on Ken D. and Dennis F. to coordinate a date for a presentation to the KEC from the Brownspoint Project, including required public advertisement.

Fire pit Letter Follow-Up: Mike P. asked if there was any follow-up regarding the Keyport Resident's complaint letter about excessive fire pit smoke. **ACTION** on Dennis F. and Heather B. to research further information on guidance/governance of fire-pits.

Public Portion opened at 8:44pm:

Mike Lane requested that the KEC be cognizant of the issues listed below (M. Lane was kind enough to provide the following summaries of his concerns). Mr. Lane took the **ACTION** to follow up with additional e-mails to KEC members regarding his concerns.

Browns Point Marina ***- Remediation of Site Contamination***

Evaluate **Mid Atlantic Engineering** plans for contamination remediation at Browns Point Marina. Issues with 1.) Land Use and remediation criteria, 2.) Delineation of contaminated areas 3.) Plans for disposal of pile of historic fill at end of Washington St, and 4.)Wellhead exposure and protection. *Boro Adm arranging for representatives to attend Feb. KEC meeting.* **Any Notice or Plans to the KEC?**

CAFRA Application for Hudson Pointe at Keyport Noticed on 12/2/20 with 60 days for input to NJDEP. The CAFRA application contains an Environmental Impact Statement and a Stormwater Management Report. A quick scan of Environmental Report disclosed failure to address possible impact on abutting Henry Hudson Trail and major drainage ditch paralleling the trail with culvers under Manchester, Fulton, and the trail to 3rd. Street. This ditch is certainly a Floodway for the area south of the HHT between Green Grove and Fulton. Previous Engineers reports have designated the ditch as a wetland area.

Aeromarine Site Deterioration At the 1/19/21 KBC meeting in response to a letter from Tom Grabowski describing debris on the beach coming from the Aeromarine site, they would evaluate possible actions to deal with the site deterioration.

Beach Park Outfall Pipe – Multiple flooding events in the Division St Basin and Beers St from short duration (less than 30 minutes) high intensity rain storm reinforces the perception that the current

design with a duck-bill is too great a restriction on the outfall pipe capacity. Drainage will fail miserably in a tropical storm or Nor'easter. *According to Boro Eng next step is to scope the pipe for blockages*

Cedar St Outfall – Rip rap status still an open item. Area still collecting beach debris.

NPP Flood Gate – New-Moon tidal flooding and a long duration NE wind fetch generated SURFACE-WATER LEVEL AT/ABOVE 4FT. , simultaneously flooding the Park and Drive at the forecast rate of ~ 50 times a year. Flood gate at this Park location will not achieve an objective of keeping vehicles out of the saltwater without K/U-turn.

TAP PSIP - "This project will be completed in concert with the design recommendations of the Complete Streets Plan. Base maps for the project and a **preliminary design walk through** have been completed. A public participation meeting to present project plans is anticipated to be held in **1Q2021** according to Borough Administrator.

Compete Streets Project – Demonstration Project at Maple and Atlantic postponed. Without crosswalks and HHT marking on the north side of Maple, the HHT bike riders will have to **ride off of County property on to private property** and duck under the Cornucopia restaurant's front door awing that extends all the way to the curb on the south side of Maple. This is not a good solution.

*KUPB Approved Projects***.**

Mariners Village – Notice of CAFRA application required to be sent to KEC, KUPB and neighbors within 200 feet for comments during the 30 day comment period in March. 2020 No **CAFRA permit issued as of 10/5/20. Any confirmation of Notice to KEC**

Mystic at Keyport – 44 Beers St **N**C
KUPB approved an additional 6-month extension of the 12/14/17 approvals. Subdivision approvals expired after 6 months with failure to file with County Tax Board. Need Floodplain Dev. Permit per Int'l UCC, final grading plan, required architectural changes and a **notice of flood risk for buyers to meet resolution condition**.

333 First St Townhouses - **NC**
In a SFHA approved plans for habitable area at BFE plus 3, vehicles parked underneath. Variance approvals expired. . Requires CAFRA and Floodplain Development Permit.

317 Beers - continuing **wetland infringement** in violation of 8/25/2005 NJDEP FULL Permit. Not an enforcement action

Public Portion - Closed 8:55pm

Meeting Adjourned 8:56pm: Motion to Adjourn by R. Jiminez; J. Sheridan 2nd; Unanimous Approval.

Next meeting will be on 8pm February 22nd, 2021.

Minutes submitted by Joe Sheridan.