

Members Present (Quorum Established at Four or More Members)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessica Pearson (Chair/Liaison to Planning Board) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frank Ceccacci (Sustainable Verona Liaison) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anthony Saltalamacchia (Vice Chair) <input type="checkbox"/> Michael Auteri <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sean DiBartolo (Plan Review) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Timothy Kiernan (Alternate II) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Martin Golan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor Kevin Ryan (Liaison from Town Council) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sarah Yauch O'Farrell		
	DISCUSSION	ACTION REQUIRED
1.	Call to Order by Jess: a) Open Public Meetings Act Statement b) Role Call performed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None.
2.	Public Comment Period: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MOTION to Open Public Comment Period: Jess; Second: Sean. APPROVAL: All Members Present AYE. Olivia Le Warn, the Watershed Ambassador for Watershed Management Area 4, was present No Public Comment. Period Closed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None.
3.	Approval of February 13, 2019 Meeting Minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MOTION to Approve: Sean; Second: Martin. APPROVAL: All Members Present AYE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sean will email approved minutes to Township Clerk Kiernan and Steve Neale.
4	Earth Day Cleanup Plans: April 13, 2019 at Grove Park: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sarah is picking up 175 seedlings. Michael has completed a flyer for e-distribution on Social media and the Town Website. Jess has sent to VHS for incorporation with Friday packages. Jessica will ask Mr. Cavallo to ask Chuck for table, bags and supplies for clean-up collection. The hours of Clean up are 9-11:30 a.m. Trees will be distributed on a "first come, first serve" basis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sarah gets seedlings 4/12/19. Chuck will drop off garbage bags and gloves. Jess, Martin, Frank and Tim have volunteered to be present for the event. Jess will bring tent, trees.
5.	Updates: <p>a) Rain Garden:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steve Neale reports that he has attended a few Green Infrastructure meetings. He thinks that this project could begin Fall 2019, but is not sure of the logistics. He agrees that this project would be managed and overseen by Engineer Mike DeCarlo All members interested can attend a Green Infrastructure workshop 3/19/19 in Montclair that may inform on the overall construction. <p>b) Community Garden:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steve Neale is the lead on this project and Frank, liaison to Sustainable Verona is keeping the VEC posted on new information. Letter of Intent is due in April and grant application is due in May. All will be submitted by Steve Neale. Overall construction could begin Fall 2019. Frank invites members to attend meetings at resident's home. <p>c) Site Plan Review/Tree/Stormwater Ordinances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site Plan, Stormwater, and Tree among other Ordinance drafts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sean will be the VEC point of contact on this project/Steve Neale and DeCarlo for Twp. Update next meeting. Frank and Steve Neale are the points of contact on this project. Frank attends meetings at resident's home and will continue to update Commission. Update next meeting (Frank). Ordinance Drafts will be reviewed in an ongoing manner

	<p>sent to Sean and Jessica that are currently under review.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jess and Sean are awaiting new drafts for further review. ○ Mike DeCarlo responded to Jess on the Tree Ordinance indicating that he found most of it to be well written. ○ He pointed out his concern with single-family homes to be burdened by a surety bond for new plantings. He also had concerns as to which township official would be in charge of making the tree removal and replacement decisions as well as a concern about conferring with other organizations like the Shade Tree Commission or the VEC. ○ He also suggested that the township provide tree tags for each tree to be removed. 	<p>by VEC for further editing. Sean/Jess reviewing team.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All comments will be forwarded to Mike DeCarlo for his review and hopefully to be incorporated into the Ordinance. • Jess and Sean will request progress on Ordinances in coming weeks. • Awaiting further response and updates from DeCarlo. • Update in April.
	<p>d) Carbon Fee Resolution Discussion on Citizens Climate Lobby in support of Resolution in favor of Carbon fees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jess sent Resolution to Mayor Ryan and Matt Cavallo and has yet to receive any response. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to the political implications, the Commission is unsure that this will move to Council for passage. • Tabled indefinitely.
	<p>e) VEC Website:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Webhosting vs. Verona Web Site: Sean, Michael, and Jess met with Steve Neale on 2/21/19. ○ Steve Neale preferred for the VEC to only have a web page on the VeronaNJ.org web site but understands that the VEC wants to further engage residents with supplemental information on a separate and more VEC-focused web site. ○ Michael has offered to redesign a streamlined and simpler site for the VEC and will present to Steve Neale and the VEC at completion of his mock up. ○ We will need full approval by Manager Cavallo to move forward, at which point, the minimal funding (Michael suggested no more than \$50.00 per year) can then be submitted to the township for reimbursement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jess has had some difficulty adding Martin as FB editor. • Mike will continue working on VEC web site mockup/content outline and keep us posted as to his soonest review date.
	<p>f) Student Outreach:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jess has been emailing Ms. Linda Haftel, VHS AP Env. Teacher and club advisor and has asked to meet students after school to introduce and explain VEC activities planned for the upcoming year. ○ Each youth group will be asked about their area of interest (clean ups, perennial garden, community garden etc.) and their scheduling and availability. ○ An open invitation will also be offered to all students to attend our public meetings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jess will continue to email the school system all events for inclusion in school newsletters. • Jess is meeting with the Environmental Club students Thursday, 3/21/19. • Sean and Michael are attending the Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast to further VEC outreach to them. • Tim will connect VEC with OLL youth group leader Gina. • Sarah will connect VEC with Presbyterian Church youth group.
	<p>g) Perennial Garden:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jess sent an email to the new chair of the Shade Tree Commission, Giovanni Coppa, introducing herself and informing him in on the original garden plans at Grove Park and introduced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shade Tree Commission would like a simple plan for full approval of the garden. • Sean will help with scaled plan

	<p>our intention to plant simple perennial garden.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Shade Tree Commission has to approve all plantings on any publicly-owned property and has responded with approval, pending a “site plan” to review. ○ Once we get plans drafted, the Commission will review and once approved will present to the Shade Tree Commission. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sarah will help with mapping the plantings for Sean’s plans.
	<p>h) Plastic Bag Ban:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tony attended a multi-town meeting on how to introduce and pass a plastic bag ban here in Verona and in surrounding towns: Representatives from West Caldwell, Caldwell specifically attended. ○ Continued exchange of information will ensue to collect information and devise a practical proposal for implementation. There are a number of proposals being considered. ○ Mayor Ryan attends Mayor/Manager meetings that include many neighboring townships and suggests that since the forum for discussion exists, that once a proposal is agreed upon, that he can present it at that forum and seek other township’s interest in such a ban. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi town plastic bag ban ordinances are in the works. Tony attended a meeting at Town Hall on 2/19/19. • Steve Neale is the lead on this and Tony will continue to attend follow up meetings • Tony will attend follow up meetings if he is available.
6.	<p>Plan Review Committee (PRC) Update:</p> <p>a) 420 Bloomfield Ave / 312 Claremont Ave. Kensington Plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1.5 -acre major development located on the site presently occupied by Richfield Caterers and their parking lot. ○ PRC’s comments focused upon applicant’s lack of compliance with Verona’s Stormwater Ordinance and the State’s Stormwater Management rule NJAC 7:8. ○ MOTION to approve VEC PRC Comments for Application: Jess; Second: Tony APPROVAL: All members present: AYE. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan reviews were sent to Kelly Lawrence prior to each hearing dated 7/10/18; 9/11/18; 10/10/18 and 10/22/18.
7.	<p>New Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jess polls members for cleanup date for Peckman behind FN Brown: June 1, 2019 or June 8, 2019. • Reminder that members are encouraged to take advantage of our ANJEC membership and attend some of the free courses available to us as members. • ECEC Roundtable: Monday, April 1, 2019 from 7-9 p.m. at the Turtleback Zoo. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members favor June 1, 2019. • Will repoll members at April Meeting.
8.	<p>Adjournment: Next meeting April 10, 2019 7 p.m.</p>	<p>VCC meeting Room.</p>