

Members Present (Quorum Established at Four or More Members)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessica Pearson (Chair/Planning Board Liaison) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Auteri <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sean DiBartolo (Vice Chair/Plan Review) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kari Baureis <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Martin Golan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fuad Dahan (Alternate I) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sarah Yauch O'Farrell <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Christen Dietz (Alternate II) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frank Ceccacci (Sustainable Verona Liaison) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Christine McGrath (Gov. Body Liaison)		
	DISCUSSION	ACTION REQUIRED
1.	Call to Order by Jess: a) Open Public Meetings Act Statement b) Roll Call performed. This virtual meeting occurred via Zoom.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None.
2.	Public Comment Period: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manager Matt Cavallo joined the meeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manager Cavallo informed the Commission that eCode360 will be updated with all current ordinances by next month. This was in response to certain links that were being discussed for the upcoming VEC website.
3.	Approval of March 11, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MOTION to Approve: Jess; Second: Sean. APPROVAL: All Members Present AYE. Abstentions: Kari Baureis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sean will email approved minutes to Township Clerk Kiernan and Steve Neale.
4.	Upcoming Cleanup Events: cancelled until further notice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The VEC regularly holds cleanup events in April and June. These events have been cancelled until the Municipality, County, and State guidelines allow for such events where groups of people may safely congregate. A fall cleanup event will be revisited and reevaluated this summer. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The VEC awaits Municipal, County, and State health guidelines before resuming publicly attended cleanup events.
5.	Updates: a) VEC Website Presentation (Mike A.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mike, Sean and Jess have had multiple internet conferencing meetings to advance the new website to launch. Pictures from our own cache on Facebook, and taken by Commissioners, as well as free pictures were used to populate the new website. We are still in the process of connecting a YouTube Channel for embedding educational videos directly into the website. Jess had a separate conference with Steve Neale to showcase the progress. He was quite pleased with the website Steve Neale recommended adding an "Events" page to showcase past and upcoming events. Mike walked Commissioners through the website and explained each page while sharing his screen. A Google Docs Word file has been set up for tracking requested changes to the website and progress addressing those 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The website is in the final phases before going live. All meeting minutes will be posted to both the official Verona Township website as well as the VEC website. Eventually, we will be asking members for articles, pictures, and informative posts for our education page. We will send an email to all before the website goes live. VEC members to provide comments on website development and improvement to Google Docs

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via Internet Conferencing**

	requests. This file will be accessed by all VEC members.	Word file.
	<p>b) Land Use Board Applications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Planning Board has a current application from the Montclair Country Club. No new documents have been received as yet and it is not yet known if they will meet in May or adjourn to a June meeting. ○ The Board of Adjustment has multiple applications on their agenda, but only one that is in progress: 21-25 Grove Avenue. They are adjourned until the regular June meeting date. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Public will be able to watch and participate in these meetings. ● Meeting dates will be posted on the Township calendar on Verona's website.
6.	Election of Officers	
	<p>a) Nomination of Chairperson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It is statutory that the Township Manager appoints the Chairperson of the VEC. ○ The VEC votes internally for the expressed purpose of finding consensus to inform the Manager for his or her determination of these appointments. ○ Nominations are sought: Sean nominated Jessica Pearson to serve as Chairperson for 2020-2021. ○ Chairperson asks for other nominations: None are heard. ○ MOTION to Elect Jessica Pearson as Chairperson for 2020-2021 year: Sean; Second: Sarah. ○ APPROVAL: All Members Present AYE. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sean will send notice to Township Clerk and Township manager of the selection of Officers for the 2020-2021 year. ● The Verona Town Council will be reviewing rosters of various Committees and Commissions in their June Meeting.
	<p>b) Nomination of Vice Chairperson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Nominations are sought: Jess nominated Sean DiBartolo to serve as Vice Chairperson for 2020-2021. ○ Chairperson asks for other nominations: None are heard. ○ MOTION to Elect Sean DiBartolo as Vice Chairperson for 2020-2021 year: Jess; Second: Mike A. ○ APPROVAL: All Members Present AYE. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sean will send notice to Township Clerk and Township manager of the selection of Officers for the 2020-2021 year.
7.	New Business	
	<p>a) Expiration of Commissioner Terms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Members Sarah, Kari, Martin, and Fuad's terms expire on 6/30/2020. ○ Members are advised to send written notification to Township Clerk Jennifer Kiernan, if they have not already done so, expressing interest in continued service and reappointment before the before 6/1/2020. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Three VEC Members and one Alternate are asked to confirm continued interest in serving on the VEC to Township Clerk Kiernan.
	<p>b) Violations of Tree Ordinance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sean and Jess have been contacted by several residents about tree removal services occurring on multiple properties throughout the township. Upon contact with the zoning department, most of these tree removals had not secured any permits. ○ Residents have been illicitly taking down trees during the health crisis and taking advantage of the State-wide shut down. ○ The Town Manager has confirmed that over the past few 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Members are asked to keep their eyes out for potential violations. ● Starting next week, questions about whether someone has a permit may be directed to the Engineering dept. during work hours and to the VPD after work hours.

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	<p>months 5 to 7 violations were issued.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Township is working to compile a list of permits for the VPD for an effected means of Stop Work Orders when these violations are discovered. ○ Once this list is compiled, the public can simply call the police to inquire whether a resident has a permit or not. Actions may be taken by the VPD if the resident in question does not have the permit. 	
	<p>c) Park goers without masks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The County Executive issued an Executive Order mandating mask wearing in all County Parks. Essex County is the authority in Verona Park and the West Essex Trail. ○ There is ample signage at the entrances to the park to inform visitors of this necessity, but people are willfully ignoring the order. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Wear a mask or face covering when visiting any park or recreation grounds.
	<p>d) Zoom Webinar on Stormwater Utilities: Saving Money for Municipalities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Webinar is for council and municipal officials, planning board members, engineers and environmental commissioners. ○ Scheduled for Thursday, 5/14/2020 at 6 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Anyone interested in the Webinar will receive an email from Jess with instructions for registration.
	<p>e) Sustainable Verona Grant for the Community Garden</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Frank announced that Verona was a recipient of a \$10k grant for the buildout of the planned community garden. ○ Frank serves as the VEC's liaison to Sustainable Verona's Green Team. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The awards ceremony will be held remotely on 5/15/2020 at 10 a.m. ● Steve Neale will be accepting the grant for the Township.
8.	<p>Adjournment: Next meeting Wednesday, June 10, 2020 at 7 p.m.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● via Internet Conferencing.