

## Mountain Lakes Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes

September 16, 2025

Members Present: Jackie Bay, Mimi Kaplan, Cy Korman, Robert Platt, Mark Stewart.

BC Liaison: Joshua Howley

HS Liaisons: Charlotte Caggiano, Samantha Hirschfeld

Public – Scott Dubnoff

- August Meeting Minutes – Approved
- MLHS Liaison Update – We welcomed our new MLHS Liaison members to the group. Sam will keep the group updated on Environmental Club activities. One thought is to bring the high school botanical garden back to life. Cy mentioned the students should review the town wide recycling and trash removal bid document as the town is currently updating their solid waste removal contract. The bid scope will have information related to how recycling and trash are supposed to be disposed of at the high school.
- Monthly E-Blasts: Jackie and Janet put together a schedule for monthly E-Blasts for the next twelve months. For October we will get out the Leave the Leaves Campaign. Dan/Jackie are also working on procuring more yard signs for this campaign. November will be related to Battery Disposal. Bob Platt is working on this.
- ERI Update: Dan to coordinate with Mitchell and Joshua to get our scope of work approved so that we can greenlight J. Caldwell on the update. The project needs to be done by June 2026 so that it falls within the current Highlands budget.
- Solar Installation PSA: Mark put together a blurb which we will try to send out on the monthly E-Blast related to the sunseting of incentives for home solar installations. Jackie to get the blurb over to Laurie to distribute this week if possible.
- PFAS Update / Recent NJ Settlement: NJ just reached a settlement with various companies regarding PFAS contamination in the state. Joshua is going to check with the town attorney and see if this possibly results in some funding for our PFAS remediation efforts at wells 3 and 4. Hopefully he can provide us an update on where we stand with the remediation project as well.
- Birchwood Rain Garden – MLHS students responsible for September. Dan to send them info on what to do.
- Fall Fest – MLEC is going to join with Green Team and set up a table at the event. Our plan is to provide a nature themed scavenger hunt for the kids. Kids who complete the scavenger hunt can get a piece of candy. Cy volunteered to work the table. Dan and Cy will coordinate on the materials.
- Other Business - None

Meeting adjourned @ 8:45pm. **Next MLEC meeting is scheduled for 10/21/25 @7:30pm** via Zoom.