Mountain Lakes Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2026

MLEC Members present: J. Bay, S. Dubnoff, M. Kaplan, C. Korman, R. Platt
Student Liaisons: C. Caggiano and S. Hirschfeld
Members of Public: Andrew Sylvester
Borough Council: Not present K. Sheikh
Minutes taken by J. Bay

1. Administration: February Meeting Minutes approved.
2. MLHS Updates: The Community clean up flyer has been posted on Instagram. The MLHS principal was contacted to post the SignUpGenius in his daily email. The liaisons will continue to post independently of the MLEC so that each post doesn't need to be approved. Cy gets NJDEP recycling posts that she will forward to liaisons. Question about allowing MLHS to post on the MLEC webpage or Facebook, needs to be addressed.
3. ERI Update: Scott created a summary of environmental ordinances passed since 2016. PFAS remediation of the wells needs to be included. The consultant for the Borough is J Caldwell & Associates.
4. MS4 Stormwater: Coordination with the DPW: Bob is leading an effort to facilitate improvement in public awareness about stormwater management. To be discussed: DPW plan for MS4 permit at upcoming meeting March 23.
5. Light Pollution: Bob met with Mitchell Stern, Borough Manager, and learned that limitations on lighting are built into our municipal land use ordinances. MLEC will explore light limitations on municipal and school buildings. The April Mountain Lakes Borough eblast will repeat the light pollution message previously run and include notice of a Dark Skies event at the Parsippany library on April 9.
6. Community Clean Up: The supplies (compostable gloves and trash bags) are ready and signs will be placed.
7. Alkaline battery recycling: Bob shared that there will be no onsite alkaline battery recycling at the DPW due to cost.
8. Raingarden Maintenance: Cy and Bob were on the schedule for March. The MLHS Club is on the schedule for April/May.
9. Business Administration:
    - scheduling: due to conflicts, the group discussed changing the day of the meetings to Wednesdays but need to confirm it with all members. The next meeting date is scheduled for Wednesday, April 8.
    - membership: EC membership is limited to 7 plus 2 alternates. Andrew Sylvester shared his desire to join the Commission and was voted in pending Borough acceptance.
10. Liaison Updates:
    - Economic Development Advisory Committee: Bob shared that we need a liaison to this group.

- Lakes Committee: Jackie shared that Lakes Committee has determined that the Lakes Study underway which is funded by a grant from Highlands is, in their opinion, inadequate. They believe it is inadequate because Princeton Hydro will identify the lakes with the greatest sediment issue and will recommend further work to dredge. Lakes Committee is concerned about the timing of waiting for the final report and then having to hire a new consultant to do lakebed core sampling to provide an estimate of the work needed. The Lakes Committee wants an immediate dredging plan with detailed costs so the Borough is not in a position that dredging cannot begin until 2029.
- Zoning Board 117 Bloomfield application: Cy confirmed that we have not heard back from Mitchell re if this application violates the NJ Highlands prohibition on building on steep slopes or if it is small enough to be under the limit. The next Zoning board meeting is April 2nd and it wasn't clear if this will be discussed.

Next meeting: April 8th, 2026 @7:30pm by Zoom.