

Berkeley Heights Environmental Commission

Agenda for Monday, March 21, at 7:30 pm

Members, if you will not be attending the meeting, please advise the chair. The meeting shall not last past 9:30 pm.

- 1) Approve minutes for February 21
- 2) Hearing on agenda items only - 3 minutes per resident
- 3) New Business:
 - a. Resident interested in environment
 - b. Solar project siting - NJ Board of Public Utilities Stakeholder Meeting
- 4) Plans: 64 River Bend Rd (see below)
- 5) Old Business:
 - a. Bylaws
 - b. Scout projects
 - i. Eagle Scout Project at Community Garden
 - ii. Other proposed projects
 - c. Community Garden
 - d. Stormwater Ordinance and MS4 Education status
 - e. Adopt a Drain
 - f. Sustainable Jersey Actions
 - i. Expired Actions
 - ii. SJ Grant for Rain Gardens
 - g. Tree Ordinance and Trees Wanted
 - h. Peppertown Park
 - i. Recycling
 - j. Clean up at Watchung Reservation
 - k. Topics for the township newsletter
 - i. Stormwater management education
 - l. Passaic River Park and GLHS
 - m. Projects with Watershed Ambassador
- 6) Citizens hearing on any environmental issues - 3 minutes per resident

Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 4, 2022, at 7:30 pm

Topic: Berkeley Heights Twp Official is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Berkeley Heights Environmental Commission

Time: March 21, 2022, 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/3575747364>

Meeting ID:

One tap mobile

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Meeting ID: 357 574 7364

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/aeoxvl6QP5>

Proposed Recommendation to Zoning Board

Subject: 64 River Bend Rd, Block 507, Lot 2, Zone R-15

Findings of Fact:

- Applicant proposes to restore portion of house destroyed by fire and add a second story that extends to rear of property.
- Groundwater recharge is apparently between 6 and 12 inches
- Site is apparently not in flood zone, riparian zone or wetlands.
- Slope is apparently 3 to 8 percent.

c. <u>Lot Coverage</u> (from 5.b., Page 1)	<u>Maximum Allowed</u>	
	<u>R-15/20 Zone</u>	<u>R-10 Zone</u>
Existing buildings/structures (Item 1/sq.ft. of lot)_____ 14.72 percent	15%	20%
Existing Other coverage (Item 4/sq.ft. of lot)_____ 8.96 percent	10%	10%
Total existing lot coverage (Item 7/sq. ft. of lot)_____ 23.68 percent	25%	30%
Proposed buildings/structures (Item 3/sq.ft. of lot }_____ 14.98 percent	15%	20%
Proposed Other coverage (Item 6/sq. ft. of lot)_____ 8.96 percent	10%	10%
Total proposed lot coverage (Item 8/sq. ft. of lot)_____ 23.94 percent	25%	30%

- General Construction and Design & Grounds and Landscaping Considerations are included
- It is not clear if trees will be affected.
- On March 2, 2020 the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection published amendments to the Stormwater Management Rules, N.J.A.C. 7:8, for purposes of replacing the existing requirements.
- DEP’s new rules require green infrastructure to reduce pollution and flooding from stormwater runoff.

Recommendations:

- The Commission recommends retaining stormwater runoff on the property with green infrastructure, including Grass Swale, (2)Green Roof, (3)Pervious Paving System, (4)Small-Scale Bioretention Basin / Rain Gardens
- Disconnect any downspouts or sump pumps from the street and connect them to rain gardens or vegetative swales. Information on rain gardens can be found at http://water.rutgers.edu/Rain_Gardens/RGWebsite/rginfo.html.
- The use of cisterns and drywells may be allowed only where the other listed methods cannot meet the requirements for retaining stormwater runoff.