

Members Present (Quorum Established at Four or More Members)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessica Pearson (Chair/Planning Board Liaison) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Walter Steinmann <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sean DiBartolo (Vice Chair/Plan Review) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Erdal Turnacioglu <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sarah Yauch O'Farrell <input type="checkbox"/> Adam Bulger (Alternate I) <input type="checkbox"/> Michael Auteri <input type="checkbox"/> Christopher Tamburro (Gov. Body Liaison) <input type="checkbox"/> Fuad Dahan		
	DISCUSSION	ACTION REQUIRED
1.	Call to Order by Jess: a) Open Public Meetings Act Statement. b) Roll Call performed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None.
2.	Public Comment Period: The meeting was joined by Junior Commissioners Cece and Nia.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No members of the public were present.
3.	Approval of April 10, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOTION to Approve: Walter; Second: Sarah. • APPROVAL: All Members Present AYE. • Abstentions: None. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sean will email approved minutes to Township Clerk Kiernan and Public Information Officer Northrop and post them to the VEC website.
4.	Updates: a) Peckman Kiosk Plans /Cleanup Schedule <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cleanup and staining is set for 6/1/2024. ○ Discussion of the larger sized poster board (53" x 35") and its planned contents. Sean plans to prepare a map and some geological pictures and map keys for the central location. Surrounding that are six 8½" x 11" areas for the surround. Those can be infilled with pictures, data and historic text. Jess and Walter will plan some of those areas. ○ Need mapping to be completed and Eagle Scout installation pictures and data points. (Sean) ○ Sean downloaded geological information for inclusion. ○ The kiosk requires stain application, a new lock, the new poster and new plexiglass for completion. ○ Plexiglass has been cut to size and is awaiting installation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lock on kiosk rear will be assessed over the next couple of weeks • Will purchase a few brushes and outdoor dark colored stain. • Sean will email Jess all data for inclusion about Scouts.
	b) Newsletter: Summer 2024 focus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Adam reviewed and sent some edits. Junior Commissioners will appear in the Fall Edition. ○ Estimated time for publishing/emailing is early June. ○ Members are encouraged to suggest content for the fall edition and make submissions on or before 8/15/24 for a September publication. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jess will forward newsletter to Adam to tweak.

	<p>c) Sustainable Verona</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SV working towards 5/10/2024 for 2nd submission to SJ; VEC submitted about 130 to 135 points worth of actions. 350 points are needed for Silver Certification. ○ SV gained an MSU student staff to study artificial turf based upon cost, PFAS, play time - an overall analysis will be created and will be presented to the Council this summer. Centennial Field will be the location of the study. ○ Working on a program to use only organic treatment on our grass fields. Kerry has met with the administration and progress is being made. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates at each meeting.
	<p>d) Junior Commissioners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Nia: Considers a project to focus upon microbiome diversity in Verona's wooded and green spaces (without the use of fertilizer). Analyze the micro bacteria and the positive impact of native species; educate the public. Additionally, she found that there are bioengineered bacteria that are used to control certain invasive plant species. She will use a power point slide show for presentation. Some video may be included. ○ Cece: Will create a project to study and measure water quality; testing of cyanobacteria at Verona Lake and the Peckman River. These organisms usually thrive in warmer, stagnant water rich in phosphorus and nitrogen, which may occur from fertilizer runoff. She will use a power point slide presentation as well as video of water testing etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects must be chosen by the VEC's May meeting. • The VEC members were very supportive of the Junior project considerations. • Jess ensured both VJCs that they can contact VEC members with questions or ideas anytime. • Fuad offered his special help with these projects • The Commission members approved of both projects
	<p>e) Everett Field Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No updates. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates when they become available.
5.	Ordinance Updates	
	<p>a) Verona Tree Ordinance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No new information. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates as they become available.
6.	Plan Review	
	<p>a) 12 Lynwood Road</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Applicant proposes an inground pool and patio that they indicate will not exceed the allowable 40% total improved lot coverage. They left out a 180-ft² front porch that was not shown on the survey, which may exceed the coverage allowance. ○ The proposed deck drain's conveyance is not indicated on the survey; therefore, we recommended testimony to clarify stormwater management on the site. ○ Recommended disconnecting downspouts to run over permeable portions of the property and forwarded the LID list. ○ MOTION to approve VEC PRC recommendations for 12 Lynwood Road: Jess; Second: Erdal. ○ APPROVAL: All other Members Present AYE. ○ ABSTAIN: None. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VEC PRC memo was emailed to the appropriate Board prior to this meeting.

	<p>b) 114 Park Avenue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Applicant seeks to remove detached garage and rear driveway area and add attached garage, with a rooftop deck area: the Applicant will be reducing lot coverage and therefore will not need to install any stormwater management measures. ○ The plans for the new driveway runs through an area that contains many existing trees. This property also runs into treed property owned by Essex County. We therefore recommended that the Applicant properly mark any and all trees slated for removal and establish a replacement table to represent new plantings that will be installed after/during construction. ○ Plans do show the removal of a very large, live oak tree from the front of site without any mitigation replanting shown on site. ○ Recommended disconnecting downspouts to run over permeable portions of the property and forwarded the LID list. ○ MOTION to approve VEC PRC recommendations for 114 Park Avenue: Walter; Second: Jess. ○ APPROVAL: All other Members Present AYE. ○ ABSTAIN: None. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VEC PRC memo was emailed to the appropriate Board prior to this meeting.
	<p>c) 48 Durrell Street</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Applicant seeks to install over 4,100 ft² of new impervious surface in the form of a pool, cabana, shed, paver patios and gravel patios. This is in addition to the construction of a home that occurred in 2018-19. The total new impervious coverage is well above the 5,000 ft² required to qualify as a Major Development. ○ According to Verona's present and past Stormwater Ordinance, this qualifies as a Major Development and requires a Stormwater Management Plan. ○ It is an incomplete application. ○ MOTION to approve VEC PRC recommendations for 48 Durrell Street: Walt; Second: Erdal. ○ APPROVAL: All other Members Present AYE. ○ ABSTAIN: Sarah. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VEC PRC memo was emailed to the appropriate Board prior to this meeting.
	<p>d) 30 Pompton Avenue Tabled</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Applicant seeks to renovate an existing building (Chase Bank) for use as a Starbucks Coffee. Applicant does not plan to disturb any portion of the property for this change of use application. ○ The property's current condition is nonconforming to Verona's Zoning code on property coverage, having 89% when 80% is allowable and on the property's buffer zone, having about three feet of a planted buffer, when 15 feet is required. The property, developed well before 2004, does not contain any modern stormwater management bmps. ○ The PRC has a few suggestions that will be finalized and discussed next month. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tabled to next meeting.

**Regular Meeting Minutes:
 Wednesday, May 8, 2024, at 7 p.m.
 Via Internet Conferencing**

7.	New Business	
	a) Renewal of Commission memberships: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fuad and Adam are reminded to send an email to Municipal Clerk Kiernan requesting reappointment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Named commissioners should take action.
8.	Adjournment: 8:30 p.m. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Next Meeting Wednesday, June 12, 2024 at 7 p.m. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Via Internet Conference.
9.	Meeting Minutes Approved: 6/12/2024. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jessica Pearson, Chair, Verona Environmental Commission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •