**AVALON ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

**OCTOBER 21, 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Chairman Reynolds. Flag salute. Chairman Reynolds read the Open Public Meetings Act. Roll call was taken.

**Present:** Beth Tipping, Debanne Macaluso, Donna Rothman, Kevin Coyle, Joseph Dvorak, Brian Reynolds

**Absent:** Stuart Friedman

A motion to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2014 meeting was made by Kevin Coyle and seconded by Debanne Macaluso. Approved by all.

The application for Buerger at 4301 Bayberry Driver was first on the agenda. Fred Jacoby the lawyer for Mr. Buerger was present along with Charles Hess, their landscape architect. The Buerger’s proposal was done working with The Lomax Consulting Group, replacing Japanese Black Pines and replanting with other trees, Cedars and other Hollies. There is no specific schedule to remove the twelve remaining JBPs. The JBPs along the 44th Street beach path have been attacked by the turpentine beetle. Joe Lomax spoke about the inventory which has been done of the JBPs on the site. Brian Reynolds said that the Vosbikians wanted the trees removed that the Buergers want to keep. Mr. Jacoby responded that there has been no resolution to this problem except for communication between Mr. Hess and the Counsel for the Vosbikians. Craig Huber, the lawyer for the Vosbikians spoke next. He said that ninety-five percent of the Buerger plan is supported by the Vosbikians except for the twelve remaining JBPs. He would like the EC to require Mr. Buerger to remove the twelve JBPs in a specified time frame/time limit. Brian is concerned about the JBPs abutting the Rhodes property being infected by the turpentine beetle and eventually infecting trees on the Rhodes property. Aaron Baker of TLCG said that the Rhodes had been contacted about their opinion on the project. No response had been received from the Rhodes. Two neighbors along Dune Drive responded that they were in favor of the project.

Public comments on this application: Martha Wright of 632 7th Street said that the removal of the twelve JBPs would have a dramatic impact and she recommended a nine year removal project.

The EC members were polled and the majority were in favor of the project. Beth was not in favor of the 44th Street beach path. The applicant wished to table the project and discuss with his client and bring to the Board next month a modified plan for the 44th Street beach path and a six year removal plan.

Joe Lomax discussed the Armacost Park rehabilitation plan. There are five vine species doing a substantial amount of damage to the trees. Trees have come down and fallen in the Park. There is a need to remove vines between 70th and 72nd Streets. Avalon Department of Public Works is getting information on the costs for vine removal.

A motion to continue the funding of the continuation of the study by The Lomax Consulting Group was made by Debanne Macaluso and seconded by Kevin Coyle. Approved by all.

Public comments: Martha Wright of 632 7th Street – Brian advised Martha that because several members of the EC are also members of the Planning Board they could not discuss the upcoming hotel application; she is seeking diversity regarding the replacement tree planting program; Martha is unhappy with the landscaping underway at the History Center; Martha is also displeased with the way the EC and the Borough is handling the cutting down of trees at demolition sites. Janet Cass of 1100 Ocean Drive – the State of New Jersey is offering incentives to plant milkweed.

Adjournment at 5:50 pm.