Avalon Environmental Commission

March 20, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Chairman Reynolds. Flag salute. Roll call.

**Present**: Joe Dvorak, Debanne Macaluso, Steve Malyszka, Brian Reynolds, Beth Tipping

**Absent**: Kevin Coyle, Donna Rothman

A motion to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2018 meeting was made by Brian Reynolds and seconded by Joe Dvorak. Approved by all.

Review of the maintenance of trees was made by Brian Reynolds. Any indigenous trees will be left on the property and under no circumstance will trees be “topped”, to be included in the notes of the pruning project and requirements. The M.O.A. will be sent to the property owner. Aaron Baker stated, prior to pruning to notify the property owners of how far back they will be allowed to prune. Notification to the Borough with approval before any pruning to be included in the M.O.A.

Several well developed trees have been cut along the beach path at 63rd Street. The matter was sent to the police department. The property owner wants to plant new trees with irrigation but may not be done until the Fall. Six to eight foot tree trunks have been left on the property and the owner was given contact information to LOMAX Consulting Group. Brian Stuart, President of D.L. Miner Construction located at 11 Clermont Drive, Cape May Court House, spoke about the trees that were cut. Brian Stuart offered to clean up the lot and plant new trees with irrigation with the approval from LOMAX Consulting Group.

Discussion of the pruning project on the dunes between 37th and 39th Street and 65th Street beach path. The project is to remove all dead plants and any dead or dying branches. The work will be done by a Borough approved landscaper and in compliance of the pruning project. Motion to approve the pruning project in the dunes was made by Debanne Macaluso. Seconded by Steve Malyszka. Approved by all.

Proposal for terrapin protection at Bay Park Marina. The Borough is applying for a grant from Sustainable NJ for help with the decline of terrapins. The project will be on the south side of the marina to prevent terrapins from entering Ocean Drive. It will include 1,000 feet of black piping along Ocean Drive and a concrete, concave surface that will make it difficult to climb. Grass leading to the water will be removed and replaced with sand and nesting boxes for female terrapins. Scott Taylor, Dr. Tedesco, and near-by residents will assistant in the consultation regarding the safety of the terrapins. Steve Malyszka expressed concerns about skunks entering the nesting habitat and terrapins going up the boat ramp. Borough council to approve plans for the habitat.

Adjournment at 5:07 pm