

**MINUTES OF THE
CRANBURY TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
September 19, 2016**

TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING

The regular meeting of the Cranbury Township Environmental Commission was held in Town Hall, 23A North Main Street, Cranbury, N.J., on Monday, September 19, at 7:00 p.m.

STATEMENT OF ADEQUATE NOTICE

Pursuant to the Sunshine Law, adequate notice in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6) was provided on December 1, 2015, of this meeting's date, time and place, and the agenda was mailed to the news media, posted on the Township bulletin board, mailed to those requesting personal notice, and filed with the Municipal Clerk.

CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present, Barbara Rogers, chair of the Cranbury Township Environmental Commission, called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. and Wendy W. Borg acted as Recording Secretary of the meeting.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Barbara Rogers, Dave Marabello, Becky Mathers Lowery, Theresa Vaccaro (8:05) and Andy Johnson were present. Paul Mullen, James Gallagher and Paul Ginoux were absent.

NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Susan Goetz, Township Committee
Jonathan Lin, Princeton High School liaison to the EC
Ed DiFiglia, Policy Specialist, Stony Brook Millstone Watershed Association
Janice McDonnell, resident – will be new EC member

MINUTES

The minutes of the July 18, 2016 meeting were amended and approved on a motion by Dave Marabello; seconded by Theresa Vaccaro. All others were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

Preserve Management – The pollinator garden did not fare well with the drought this past hot summer. Information will be placed in the kiosk. The Girl Scouts are working on a video and re-planting.

The EC plans to do a maintenance inspection of the township's preserve trails, starting in spring.

Ms. Goetz reported about a resident concern about the treatment of Brainerd Lake, the herbicide and the timing. The lake has a vegetative overgrowth. The Township Committee hired Princeton Hydro to apply an herbicide treatment to the lake.

Princeton Hydro is also forming an estimate for a management plan for the lake. The goal is to dredge, but the resources are not available yet to dredge and to sell the fill.

Mr. DiFiglia noted that the SBMWS concurs with treating half the lake at a time.

Sustainable Jersey –

School Programs – Ms. Vaccaro and Ms. Lowery will meet on identifying the needs of the school. More information will be issued at the October meeting.

Jonathan Lin reached out to Student Council faculty advisor Mrs. Chen at Cranbury School to get a new Cranbury School student liaison for the EC. He will also participate in the PHS Environmental Club.

Sustainable Jersey recertification – Dr. Rogers submitted information for the September 11 deadline. Submissions included information on ERI, Shade Tree Community Forestry, recycling, the Village Park rain garden, and Farmland Preservation. The Township needs 150 points for bronze level; 165 were submitted. Approval will come in the next couple months.

Mr. DiFiglia returned to the EC to report that he spoke with the Parks Commission and the Board of Health about an ordinance enforcing smoke free parks and public places. He noted that the Board of Health would like the EC to write a statement of support. The ordinance is worth 10 points for Sustainable Jersey. The N.J. Dept. of Health is providing signs to townships that have passed the ordinance. Ed noted that the signs become a self-enforcing mechanism, and that police do not have to get involved too much.

Mr. Johnson will write a note of support to be passed on to the Board of Health.

Environmental Resource Inventory – Going through a second final review. Mr. Mullen is reviewing the maps. Information about the ERI will be presented October 20 and November 17 at the public library. Mr. Johnson and Dr. Rogers will put together a presentation.

Year End Report 2015/Goals 2016 – The Goals for 2016 document was approved on a motion by Dave Marabello; seconded by Andy Johnson. All others were in favor. Dr. Rogers noted that a goal for 2017 would be to promote sustainability more, especially green building. The Green Team works in collaboration with the Recycling department in communicating about leaving grass clippings on lawns.

Information on the Riparian Zone is still needed for the 2015 report. Dr. Rogers will appear before the Township Committee in an upcoming meeting.

Village Park Rain Garden –Mr. Marabello would like to get a group together and weed the garden in early fall. Replanting and re-mulching is slated for spring. Also stone needs to be purchased.

NEW BUSINESS –

Cranbury Day wrap up–The EC table was a huge success this year, with many visitors to the booth. Residents enjoyed the stormwater model display, the township trails map, and the open space map, as well as information from the Stony Brook Millstone Watershed Association and ANJEC. In an online news article, the activities at the EC table were commended.

APPLICATIONS - None

PUBLIC COMMENT– See Mr. DiFiglia’s comments above.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

With no further business, Andy Johnson, seconded by Dave Marabello, thereupon adjourned the meeting at 8:40p.m. on a motion. All were in favor.

CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify, that I am the duly appointed Secretary of the Cranbury Township Environmental Commission, and that this document, consisting of three (3) pages, constitutes a true and correct copy of the minutes of the monthly meeting held on September 19, 2016.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name this _____ day of _____, 2016.

Wendy W. Borg, Secretary