

**MINUTES OF THE
CRANBURY TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
April 18, 2017**

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 Tuesday, April 18, 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 April 3, 2017, 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 7:10 p.m. and Wendy W. Borg acted as Recording Secretary of the meeting.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Barbara Rogers, Paul Mullen, Becky Mathers Lowery, David Marabello, Andy Johnson, Jim Gallagher, Theresa Vaccaro and Janice McDonnell (7:31) were present. Paul Ginoux was absent.

NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Ed DiFiglia, Stony Brook Millstone Watershed Policy Specialist
Connie Bauder, resident
Will Novak, Cranbury School student liaison to the EC

MINUTES

The minutes of the March 20, 2017 meeting were amended and approved on a motion by David Marabello; seconded by Theresa Vaccaro. Jim Gallagher and Andy Johnson abstained. All others were in favor. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Preserve Management – Dr. Rogers visited the Preserve with Jerry Thorne. Wildflower seeds were planted near the pollinator garden. The Red Bud trees are flowering in the Cranbury Brook Preserve. Mr. Mullen installed a second geocache in the Unami Woods. The original one was stolen. The Commission will continue to look into the graveled area near the entrance to the Pin Oaks Loop Trail and the possibility of this area for car parking for hikers. Concerns include signs and maintenance.

Sustainable Jersey School Programs – The second round application was submitted. There will also be a third round.

A second newsletter was uploaded on the website, however, the first newsletter is not available. Ms. Lowery will contact the school on archiving the newsletters. The township website now contains a link to the school newsletter link.

Will reported that Terracycle continues with a good response from all grades. He also reported that the entire Student Council showed interest in participating in this Saturday's Stream Clean Up in town, and he is coordinating with Linda Scott in the Recycling department so the Student Council can earn monies from the Clean Communities Grant.

Year End Report 2016/Goals 2017 – Dr. Rogers will present the reports to the Township Committee at their regular meeting on Monday, April 24.

Alfred Meiss Award – Ms. Lowery sent the award explanation to the school for distribution to the teachers. Mr. Marabello will present the award at the June ceremony.

Stream Clean Up – The 11th annual event is scheduled for this Saturday, April 22, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Mr. DiFiglia shared this year's tee shirt and reported he will participate. The town's Daisy Girl Scout troop will participate. The Cub and Boy Scouts have expressed interest.

Township Committee meeting report – Mr. Marabello attended the March and April meetings. He reported that the Route 130 bridge at the Valero is slated to be replaced by the state DOT in the next couple years. The Amazon warehouse application is under consideration. Also, the Brainerd Lake bank stabilization project has begun. The TC is in support of the ANJEC grant.

Township spring newsletter – Mrs. McDonnell submitted an article about the drought in New Jersey.

NEW BUSINESS

Climate March – Former EC member John Persico wrote to invite EC members to ride a coach bus to Washington D.C. for the March.

NJISST conference – Dr. Rogers attended with Shade Tree Commission Chair Kathy Easton. She reported that no invasive species have been taken off the list; a few new ones have been added. Interns are available again and Dr. Rogers expressed interest in having an intern come to Cranbury's preserves to eradicate invasive species.

Pesticides – At the May meeting, the EC will look into the issue of the use of Round Up in the township. Mrs. McDonnell noted the chemical is especially toxic if it seeps into groundwater.

Cranbury Day September 9 – If the grant is awarded for conservation easements, this will be the theme for the booth.

APPLICATIONS – None of consequence

PUBLIC COMMENT – Mrs. Bauder voiced that she believed that the proposed ordinance for smoke free parks, which is under discussion by the Board of Health, is not being considered as originally intended and introduced by Mr. DiFiglia, as a stop gap for cigarette butts ending up in the township waterways. Sustainable Jersey points can be awarded to the township for the adoption of the ordinance. Mrs. Bauder also said she is concerned for forest fires because of the dryness. Dr. Rogers agreed that the Board of Health needs to be reminded of the environmental implications of the cigarette issue and will reach out.

Mr. DiFiglia invited all to participate in the Watershed’s Trail Run on May 21.

Mrs. Bauder asked for samples of invasive species to be displayed on Cranbury Day at the EC table.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

With no further business, Jim Gallagher, seconded by Paul Mullen, thereupon adjourned the meeting at 8:14 p.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 April 18, 2017.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name this _____ day of _____, 2017.

Wendy W. Borg, Secretary