

**MINUTES OF THE
CRANBURY TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
September 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 Monday, September 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 December 5, 2016, 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 7:05 p.m. and Debra A. Rubin acted as Recording Secretary of the meeting.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

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

NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

MINUTES

The minutes of the July 17th, 2017 meeting were amended and approved on a motion by Paul Mullen; seconded by Dave Marabello. All were in favor. Motion carried.

2018 MEETING DATES

Members reviewed the dates for the 3rd Monday of each month and agreed to move the January and February meetings to the 3rd Tuesday in recognition of the holidays. The months of March through December will stand as the 3rd Monday of each month for scheduling purposes. The meeting time will continue at 7:00 p.m. The request for meeting space will be sent to the Township Clerk.

OLD BUSINESS

Preserve Management –

- Habitat Enhancement – In consultation with Pineland Nursery a pollinator seed mix will be placed along the grassland area.

- Trail Maintenance –
 - Reinhardt – The yellow trails were blazed to make the trails more noticeable.
 - Pin Oaks – The Department of Public Works currently mows this area once a year. They will be asked to mow mid-October or before leaf pick up for the Township. The plan is to eventually phase out the mowing.
 - Cranbury Preserve – The grassland areas needs to be mowed. The commission requested confirmation of mowing schedule; whether the mowing normally takes place during October or late February.

In the spring, the commission will address if help is needed from the Boy Scouts regarding trail maintenance throughout these areas.

- Village Park - Rain Garden – The rain garden is in dire need of weeding and additional stone is needed for the swale. The Boy Scouts may be available to complete the maintenance before mid-October. The commission will purchase the stone for the swale once pricing has been obtained. The need for plant replacement will be assessed during this scheduled maintenance.

Sustainable Jersey School Programs – The school has been certified and is established at the Bronze level. The first meeting of the Green Team Sustainability within the school will be held on September 27th. Janice McDonnell was invited to attend.

Township Committee meeting report– Paul Mullen attended and reported:

- The green barrier is in the process of being completed along Brainerd Lake by the NJDEP.
- Amazon building is open and operational.

NEW BUSINESS

Cranbury Day Wrap-Up – Approximately 300 people attended the event. Members received positive feedback from the participants regarding the Environmental Commission table, the information provided and the various walking trails within the township. Many of the participants were able to use the QR Code for the map of the walking paths for use on their mobile devices. Pollinator seed packets were given out to participants that approached the Commission’s table for a variety of information. Members suggested that scheduling coverage for the Environmental Commission table start earlier to ensure coverage of two people at the table during most, if not all, of the day. In addition, the Parks Commission will be invited again to participate with the Environmental Commission at the 2018 Cranbury Day.

2018 Budget – The members discussed the line items where an increase would be requested. These items include increases to Membership and Dues, Training, Conservation (Meiss) Award and Community Education. Budget requests to be completed by October 9th.

APPLICATIONS – None to report

PUBLIC COMMENT– None

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

With no further business, Theresa Vaccaro made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Becky Mathers Lowery. By a unanimous vote of all members present, the meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

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 18, 2017.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name this 16th day of October, 2017.

Debra A. Rubin, Secretary