

**MINUTES OF THE
CRANBURY TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
June 21, 2010**

TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING

The regular meeting of the Cranbury Township Environmental Commission was held in Town Hall on June 21, 2010, at 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present, James Gallagher, Chairman of the Cranbury Township Environmental Commission, called the meeting to order and Kristen H. Hamilton acted as Recording Secretary of the meeting.

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 3, 2009, 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.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

James Gallagher, John Reinfelder, Anna Drago, Susan Goetz and Paul Mullen.

NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Bill Bauder, a Cranbury resident.

MINUTES

The minutes of the May 17, 2010, meeting were approved as amended on a motion by John Reinfelder; seconded by Anna Drago. Paul Mullen abstained; all others in favor.

WORK SESSION

Preserve Management Plan – A response has not yet been received from the Natural Resources Conservation Service if the 530 plugs planted would meet the grant requirement of 800. Anna Drago noted that flowers are in bloom at the site.

New Jersey Turnpike Mitigation Project – No update.

Sustainable Jersey – Jim Gallagher advised that when he spoke with Richard Preiss, Township Planner, about the Master Plan, he suggested that Sustainable Jersey would be a good program to join or at least follow its guidelines. September 15th is the deadline to file the Sustainable Jersey application.

Alfred Meiss Environmental Appreciation Award – Matthew Purdy was selected for the award out of the eight (8) entries received. Jim Gallagher, Anna Drago, Dietrich Wahlers and John Reinfelder met on June 1st to review the entries and based their decision on the following criteria:

- Is the entry in touch with the environment of Cranbury?

- Creativity/originality.
- Inspirational and important.

Next year's award instructions may need to be more specific to assure the students choose a "natural resource" as their subject.

DISCUSSION

Unami Woods Art Project – The Environmental Commission is in possession of the completed art project and will display it on Cranbury Day. The Commission will suggest another place in Cranbury for next year's project.

Anna Drago suggested the cutting down of Russian Olive trees as a possible Eagle Scout project.

A letter was received from the Stony Brook Millstone Watershed thanking Cranbury for participating in the Stream Cleanup.

Anna Drago noted that the Watershed is conducting research on dams greater than 5' and questioned if they should be asked to look at the broken dam in the Preserve.

John Reinfelder advised that Rutgers still has a Soil Lab and has test kits available for \$20.00 each.

APPLICATIONS

Rockefeller Group – The Commission reviewed the Treatment Works Approval Application. No comment is necessary.

Monroe Township Utilities Department - The Commission reviewed the Treatment Works Approval Application. No comment is necessary.

Cranbury Housing Associates – The Commission reviewed the Freshwater Wetlands Application. No comment is necessary.

Cranbury Brick Yard, LLC – A letter dated May 25, 2010, was received from the Stony Brook Millstone Watershed attaching a Deficiency Letter dated April 5, 2010, from the NJDEP for Cranbury Brick Yard, LLC.

The Environmental Commission sent a letter to the Planning Board as a result of the May 19, 2010, meeting held with Richard Burrow of Langan Engineering, Cathy Marcelli, Planning Board Engineer, and Suzanne Dietrich of the NJDEP regarding the applicant's desire to use dredge material to cap the property. The letter stated:

- Ordinance Section 150-56C(13) prohibits development within 200' of Indian Run. Based on information supplied by the applicant at the May 19, 2010, meeting, it is our understanding that MEC is present within the area up to and including the stream and, therefore, capping of this area is required by the Remedial Action Work Plan approved by NJDEP.

- We believe the dredge materials, which the applicant wants to use to grade, fill and cap the property contain contaminants above the NJDEP definition of “clean soil”. In particular, we are concerned about the presence of leachable metals at levels above the NJDEP action levels. Given the high water table and low pH values of the groundwater, we are concerned that these metals will leach into the groundwater and degrade surrounding wetlands and habitat, the Millstone River and nearby potable wells.
- We recommend that the applicant provide a detailed explanation as to why the proposed wetlands mitigation is equivalent to the standard 2:1 mitigation ratio.

At the Planning Board’s May 20, 2010, meeting, it was decided that a consultant would be hired to review the soil data.

Bill Bauder voiced his concern that he has spoken with numerous Cranbury residents who are not aware of the Brick Yard Road project. He feels the Environmental Commission should inform the public about the project and was hoping the Environmental Commission could make additional comments on the significant impact the importation of soil will have on the community before the Planning Board’s July 1st meeting. After much discussion, the Commission agreed to prepare a memo to the Planning Board advising that:

- The Environmental Commission is concerned with the impact the large number of trucks that will be coming in and out of the site will have on the community.
- It is requested that the applicant amend its clean-up plan to lower the volume of soil being brought into property.
- If the application is approved, a detailed oversight plan must be put in place to assure the soil being brought into the site is properly handled.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

There being no further business, the meeting was thereupon adjourned.

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 3 pages, constitutes a true and correct copy of the minutes of the monthly meeting held on June 21, 2010.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name this 19th day of July, 2010.

Kristen H. Hamilton, Secretary