

**MINUTES OF THE  
CRANBURY TOWNSHIP  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION  
July 16, 2018**

**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, July 16, 2018 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 4, 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 7:02 p.m. and Jean Golisano acted as Recording Secretary of the meeting.

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Barbara Rogers, Mona Bhatia, James Gallagher, Paul Mullen, and Theresa Vaccaro were present. Janice McDonnell was absent, and Becky Mathers Lowery was excused.

**NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Sally O'Grady – Parks Commission representative

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the May 21, 2018 meeting were approved as amended on a motion by Mr. Gallagher; seconded by Mr. Mullen. All others were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

The minutes of the June 18, 2018 meeting were approved as amended on a motion by Ms. Vaccaro; seconded by Mr. Gallagher. All others were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Preserve Management –

- Reinhardt Preserve – Mr. Mullen reported the geocaching on the Reinhardt Preserve is in disrepair, and additional yellow trail blazers may be needed to mark the trail. Mr. Mullen reported he will check the Preserve; however, he feels it will require additional clearing and work.
- Cranbury Brook Preserve – Dr. Rogers reported she has been watering the new plants and reported the grass was mowed too wide, cutting some of the wild flowers. Dr. Rogers reported she has also been working on some invasive species, including poison ivy.

Ms. O'Grady reported Chairman of the Parks Commission, Tom Weidner, would like Cranbury residents to be able to use the land behind Shadow Oaks. There was discussion concerning the easements leading to that land. Dr. Rogers stated some residents feel the easement is their property and have actually mowed their laws down to the Millstone.

Ms. O'Grady stated Parks talked about connecting Unami Woods to the Fire House. She stated she spoke with the homeowner near the easement about the Township clearing a little trail and doing some trimming. Some research on the deed is necessary to determine what may/may not be done to the easement.

#### Sustainable Jersey

Dr. Rogers stated Sustainable Jersey would be talked about later in meeting so EC liaison, Matt Scott, could participate in the discussion.

#### Environmental Commission Recruitment

The Commission is currently looking for two new members to fill the Alternate positions. Ms. O'Grady stated she will consider joining the EC.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### Cranbury Day

Ms. O'Grady reported members of the Parks Commission have agreed to work with the EC on Cranbury Day. Mr. Mullen stated he has maps of Township park trails for display on an easel. There was discussion about handouts, and the EC members discouraged paper handouts; however, the Parks Commission may have a brochure listing the Township parks and their amenities.

#### Diversity Training

The Township Committee has required that all employees and Board/Commission members receive diversity training presented by the Township Attorney. EC members have committed to attending on July 31 (Ms. Bhatia, Mr. Mullen and Ms. Vaccaro), August 8 (Dr. Rogers and Mr. Gallagher) and August 14 (Ms. Lowery).

#### Township Newsletter

Dr. Rogers prepared an article about conservation easements, and discussion followed about easements and their restrictions. Additional research will be done on easements before the article is submitted, perhaps in the following newsletter. Dr. Rogers also prepared several other items, and Mr. Mullen was working on an article about water conservation and usage in hot months.

#### Sustainable Jersey

Dr. Rogers and Ms. Vaccaro met to discuss Sustainable Jersey action items that the EC may want to pursue, such as:

- Improve Public Engagement in Municipal Government
- Adopt a Complete Streets Policy

- Establish a Creative Team
- Municipal Communications Strategy
- Green Business Recognition Program
- Sustainable Land use Pledge
- Make Your Town Electric Vehicle Friendly
- Bicycle and/or Pedestrian Audit

After some discussion, it was decided to present “Improve Public Engagement in Municipal Government” and “Adopt a Complete Streets Policy” to Matt Scott, EC Liaison, for his review. Dr. Rogers explained the “Complete Streets Policy” would involve looking at streets and describing how the streets currently share the roadway with bikers, walkers and cars.

### **APPLICATIONS**

Mr. Gallagher reviewed a Freshwater Wetlands Letter of Interpretation for Block 14.01, Lot 2.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment this evening.

### **ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

With no further business, Mr. Gallagher, seconded by Mr. Mullen, thereupon adjourned the meeting at 8:35 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 July 16, 2018.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name this 17<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2018.

*Jean Golisano*

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Secretary