

**MINUTES OF THE  
CRANBURY TOWNSHIP  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION  
September 17, 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, Dr. Barbara Rogers, Chair of the Cranbury Township Environmental Commission, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and Jean Golisano acted as Recording Secretary of the meeting.

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

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

**NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Ashley Chen, Cranbury School representative  
Nick Morolda, Monroe resident

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the July 16, 2018 meeting were approved as amended on a motion by Mr. Gallagher; seconded by Ms. Vaccaro. All others were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dr. Rogers invited Mr. Nick Morolda, a Halsey Reed Road resident, to address the Commission. Mr. Morolda stated he wanted to bring to the EC members' attention some environmentally-sensitive concerns about the construction on Block 13, Lots 13 and 15. He reported there is already traffic from the warehouses on the east side of Route 130. Additional construction will add to that traffic, change the historic hamlet, and endanger wildlife species, including the Brown Thrasher, Wood Turtle and Great Blue Heron. Mr. Morolda reported there are mitigated wetlands on the site.

To discourage the construction, he reported Monroe Township has denied the Developer water and sewer hookups so septic would have to be done. In addition, Monroe has also enforced a weight limit for trucks, which would then force all traffic on to Cranbury-Hightstown Station Road. Mr. Morolda stated he understands the EC is an advisory Board; however, he is hoping to get support from the EC and HPC in Cranbury as well as

Monroe to try to maintain the cultural and historical integrity of the east side of the Township. There was discussion about the possibility of preserving the land; however, the Developer would have to agree. Mr. Morolda stated he understands the property's zoning is commercial and that the developer has the right to build on the land. The EC members thanked Mr. Morolda for attending the meeting and encouraged him to attend future meetings for updates.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Preserve Management – Dr. Rogers reported four Boy Scouts and one leader worked pulling weeds in the rain garden last weekend. She suggested the EC schedule some fall work projects to clear trails and the preserves.

### Sustainable Jersey

Dr. Rogers reported she is trying to get on the October 22<sup>nd</sup> Township Committee Agenda to address Sustainable Jersey and the action items the EC has chosen to focus on:

- 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

Dr. Rogers stated Sustainable Jersey was adopted as part of the Master Plan. She reminded EC members that certification will soon be coming up. There was discussion about meeting with the Board's liaison, Matt Scott, to discuss Complete Streets and EV to further gain his support before the Township Committee Meeting.

Dr. Rogers welcomed Ms. Ashley Chen as the new school representative. Ms. Chen reported the Student Council has not met yet. There was discussion about possible environmental projects the school students could take on, including continuing the Teracycle program and adding labels to the recycle bins. Members encouraged Ms. Chen to start programs early in the school year and having the school make announcements to bring awareness to the programs. Ms. Chen was also advised middle school grades could earn money by participating in Spring Clean Up.

### Environmental Commission Recruitment

Dr. Rogers and Ms. Vaccaro spoke on Cranbury Day with two residents who may be interested in joining the Environmental Commission. They will follow up with the prospective candidates.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Cranbury Day

Cranbury Day was well attended, and Ms. Golisano thanked Mr. Gallagher, Ms. Lowery, Ms. Vaccaro and Dr. Rogers for volunteering. Mr. Paul Mullen also volunteered.

Feedback from Cranbury Day included adding the trails' mileage to the Walking Trail Map, and a comment was received that part of the Cranbury Brook Preserve trail was not being maintained. Also, a resident requested the Reinhardt Preserve parking lot be plowed in winter so residents could park and go cross country skiing in the Preserve.

Dr. Rogers reported trees are sprouting up in the grasslands of the Cranbury Brook Preserve, and stated she will ask Mr. Thorne to mow the grass in the Preserve.

Dr. Rogers reported there is an ANJEC Conference in October and inquired if any members were interested in attending. There was no immediate interest among the members.

Dr. Rogers will review the 2019 budget and asked members to bring suggestions on the Board's 2019 needs to the next meeting. Ms. Vaccaro offered to meet with Dr. Rogers to discuss ways to promote the Sustainable Jersey items.

#### **APPLICATIONS**

Mr. Gallagher reviewed a Freshwater Wetlands Letter of Interpretation.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no additional public comment this evening.

#### **ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

With no further business, Ms. Vaccaro, seconded by Ms. Mathers Lowery, thereupon adjourned the meeting at 8:25 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 September 17, 2018.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name this 16th day of October, 2018.

Jean Golisano  
Jean Golisano  
Secretary