

**MINUTES OF THE
CRANBURY TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
November 19, 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, November 19, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

OATH OF OFFICE

Ms. Jean Golisano, Deputy Clerk, issued the Oath of Office to Ms. Michele Till. Ms. Till was appointed First Alternate with a term expiring on December 31, 2018.

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

Ms. Vaccaro made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mullen, with all members present agreeing, to have Mr. Gallagher run the meeting in Dr. Rogers' absence. The motion carried. With a quorum present, Mr. Gallagher called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m., and Jean Golisano acted as Recording Secretary of the meeting.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Becky Mathers-Lowery, Jim Gallagher, Paul Mullen, Michele Till and Theresa Vaccaro were present. Dr. Barbara Rogers, Janice McDonnell and Mona Bhatia were excused. Ms. Ashley Chen, Cranbury School representative was also excused.

NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

There were no non-members in attendance.

MINUTES

The minutes of the October 15, 2018 meeting were approved as amended on a motion by Ms. Vaccaro; seconded by Mr. Mullen. The motion carried with all members in attendance in agreement.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

OLD BUSINESS

Preserve Management –

Unami Woods - Mr. Mullen reported he and Ms. Sally O'Grady, Parks Commission, blazed the trail in Unami Woods last month. A few days later, Ms. O'Grady noticed a resident built a new bridge over a small swale on Township property. Ms. Golisano reported the bridge was discussed at the Parks meeting and stated a Parks member would follow up with the residents.

Sustainable Jersey

New Action Items - There was no report on New Actions Items this month.

School Programs – Ms. Vaccaro and Ms. Mathers-Lowery described the Cranbury School programs and the School's Bronze Status as a Sustainable Jersey School to new EC Member, Ms. Till. They stated they have been encouraging a meeting with Dr. Susan Genco to further discuss additional sustainability initiatives in the School. Ms. Vaccaro stated the School is very good about environmental education and has developed lesson plans for the kindergarten through 5th grades.

Ms. Vaccaro further explained that the Township Committee is very supportive of Sustainable Jersey. She stated she will be going through all of the items for recertification to see what items are completed and what items are achievable. Ms. Vaccaro stated with more interest and participation, silver status for the Township cannot be ruled out. Ms. Till inquired how she could help, and Ms. Vaccaro stated it will be necessary to see in the next few weeks what is workable.

Mr. Gallagher suggested referring back to the Master Plan, which supports sustainability. Ms. Vaccaro stating there are many things the EC will continue doing, and she would like to see how close the Commission is to Silver Status. She stated the Township's recertification is due in 2019, and the School's is up in 2020.

Environmental Commission Recruitment

Ms. Michele Till joined the Environmental Commission as a First Alternate. There is currently still a vacancy for Second Alternate.

NEW BUSINESS

Environmental Commission Presentation to Township Committee

Ms. Vaccaro reported she attended the November 5th meeting when Dr. Rogers presented the EC's report to the Township Committee. Ms. Vaccaro reported the Township Committee is planning on conducting a work session on sustainability in January 2019.

"Sustainable Cranbury" Presentation at the Cranbury Library

Ms. Vaccaro reported she attended Dr. Rogers' "Sustainable Cranbury" presentation at the Cranbury Public Library. She stated the presentation was well received and was very well attended by approximately 20 people, including some young adults.

Development Review Committee

Mr. Mullen reported he obtained a response from the Board Planner and the Board Attorney explaining why the EC member on the DRC cannot vote to approve

minor applications (e.g., site plans and subdivisions). Mr. Mullen stated he was advised since these minor applications would otherwise go to the Planning Board or the Zoning Board for approval, only those members of the DRC ***who are also on one of those two Boards*** should have the authority to approve. The EC member is on the DRC in an advisory capacity only. Mr. Mullen stated he felt this response still fails to address two basic questions:

1. Per State law, the EC must have a voting member on the Planning Board. As such, shouldn't the EC also have a voting member on the DRC?
2. Where is it stated in the Township Code that the EC member of the DRC does not have voting privileges? Labeling the EC member "ex officio" does not do this. The term "ex officio" simply means that a person is a member of a board or committee by virtue of holding another office.

Mr. Mullen stated he will continue pursue this issue with the Township.

APPLICATIONS

Mr. Gallagher reviewed a Flood Hazard Area Applicability Determination for Block 13 Lots 13 and 15 (proposed site of future warehouse on Halsey Reed Road) and suggested having a discussion about the future warehouse at the December meeting. He also reviewed and explained to Board members an amended site plan for the Hagerty/Cheney property and a site plan for Cranbury Commons (Old Trenton Road).

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no additional public comment this evening.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

With no further business, Mr. Gallagher requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion by Mr. Mullen, seconded by Ms. Till, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 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 pages, constitutes a true and correct copy of the minutes of the monthly meeting held on November 19, 2018.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name this 19th day of December, 2018.

Jean Golisano

Jean Golisano
Secretary