

**MINUTES OF THE  
CRANBURY TOWNSHIP  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION  
December 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, December 17, 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. Rogers called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m., and Jean Golisano acted as Recording Secretary of the meeting.

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Jim Gallagher, Paul Mullen, Barbara Rogers, Michele Till and Theresa Vaccaro were present. Becky Mathers Lowery, Janice McDonnell and Mona Bhatia were excused.

**NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Ms. Ashley Chen, Cranbury School representative  
Mr. Nick Marolda, Monroe resident  
Mr. Stuart Long, Cranbury resident

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the November 19, 2018 meeting were approved as amended on a motion by Mr. Mullen; seconded by Ms. Vaccaro. The motion carried with all members in attendance in agreement, with the exception of Dr. Rogers who abstained.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Nick Marolda a Monroe resident, presented information he researched concerning wetlands on the site of the proposed warehouse on Halsey Reed Road. He reported a few years ago the Township Committee had stated there were 8,600 acres of wetlands in Cranbury, and now there are approximately 2,150 acres, or even less, as a result of all the warehouses built in the Township. He stated he has not yet presented this information to the Township Committee. He also stated there was a Flood Hazard Determination issued for that property, and the author of the Letter of Interpretation visited the site to look at the dirt that was moved. Mr. Marolda stated he observed an engineering truck and a back hoe driving on the property. He was told they were there to dig trenches to do a stormwater retention area. Mr. Marolda stated he called DEP again, and they were going to look at the site the end of the week. He inquired if permits

were necessary to do this work, and Mr. Gallagher stated it would depend on the amount of the disturbance.

Mr. Marolda stated the Master Plan contains wording about environmental constraints. He requested the impact on health be considered when the application is submitted due to the impact of heavy traffic issues and lack of water and sewer services being provided by Monroe. The members thanked Mr. Marolda for the information and stated there currently is no application for a warehouse on Halsey Reed Road.

School Programs – Ms. Ashley Chen, Cranbury School representative was moved up in the agenda because of her time constraints. She reported the School is working on terracycle initiatives, and she stated in January the students will label recycling buckets. She inquired about students helping at the Stream Clean Up in the spring. Dr. Rogers suggested she contact Ms. Linda Scott at the Township for assistance with both items.

Dr. Rogers displayed a bird feeder she is hoping to have put in the School courtyard. She asked Ms. Chen for assistance in creating a more environmentally-friendly system at the school by making wildlife more visible.

Mr. Stuart Long, South Main Street, came before the EC with three issues. He inquired if well water is used at the 7-11 at the Cranbury Circle and wanted to know if the water was tested. He stated he was in contact with Ms. Natalie Bujalski, the Township's Board of Health Officer, who stated the water was tested. Mr. Long stated he contacted the DEP; however, he has not had a response. He felt there could be unsafe levels of radon that should be tested.

Mr. Long reported he has received correspondence from the State's Board of Tree Experts. The members reviewed the paperwork and suggested Mr. Long write to the State to clear up the matter.

Mr. Long inquired about wildlife trusts. After further clarification, Dr. Rogers stated she could perhaps find contact information about wildlife trusts for Mr. Long for his properties in New Jersey and Maine.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Preserve Management – Mr. Mullen reported that he attended a Township Committee meeting on December 10<sup>th</sup> to speak about the EC planting ten dogwoods near the dirt mound at the entrance of the Cranbury Brook Preserve. The trees would help hide the dirt mound. The Township Committee gave provisional approval based on the EC getting approval from Shade Tree and Parks. Mr. Mullen reported he and Ms. Kathy Easton, Shade Tree Chair, attended the Parks meeting on December 12<sup>th</sup> to speak about the dirt mound and planting of trees. Parks gave its approval; however, members would like a sketch of where the trees would actually be planted. The trees have been purchased and will not be planted until the spring.

Sustainable Jersey – Ms. Till inquired how she can help with the recertification process. There was discussion about electric vehicles and making Cranbury EV friendly.

Sustainable Jersey will be discussed at a work session at a January Township Committee meeting.

Environmental Commission Recruitment – Mr. Mullen reported he may have a volunteer who would be interested in joining the EC. He stated he will reach out to the individual and ask him to attend the January meeting. Dr. Rogers and Ms. Till will continue with the EC when their terms expire at the end of this year. Dr. Rogers contacted Ms. Bhatia and Ms. McDonnell to see if they are interested in continuing on the Board after this year. That information will be forwarded to the Municipal Clerk.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Development Review Committee

There was further discussion about Mr. Mullen, as the EC member, not having the authority to vote at DRC meetings on minor site plan and minor subdivision applications. He stated he was advised he is on the DRC in an advisory capacity only. He stated Mr. Gallagher is on the Planning Board as the EC member and he has right to vote. Mr. Gallagher made a motion, seconded by Ms. Vaccaro, authorizing Mr. Mullen to send a memo to the Planning Board Attorney requesting clarification as to why the EC no longer has vote on minor site plan and minor subdivision applications. All members were in agreement. and the motion carried.

## **APPLICATIONS**

Mr. Gallagher reviewed two Flood Hazard Area Applicability Determinations

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no additional public comment this evening.

## **ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

With no further business, Dr. Rogers requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion by Mr. Gallagher, seconded by Ms. Vaccaro, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 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 December 17, 2018.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name this 23rd day of January, 2019.

Jean Golisano

Jean Golisano  
Secretary