

**MINUTES OF THE
CRANBURY TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

December 16, 2019

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 16, 2019 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 20, 2018, 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, Mr. Mullen called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m., and Jean Golisano acted as Recording Secretary of the meeting.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mona Bhatia, Josh Kohut, Becky Lowery, Jason Mildenberg, Jim Gallagher, Paul Mullen, and Theresa Vaccaro were present. Barbara Rogers arrived at 7:25 p.m. Michele Till was excused.

NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Connie Bauder, Cranbury Resident
Lia Mastropolo – The Watershed

MINUTES

The Minutes of the November 18, 2019 meeting were reviewed and on a motion by Ms. Lowery, seconded by Mr. Mildenberg, the minutes were approved by all members present.

OLD BUSINESS

Cranbury Station, LLC Application to the Planning Board

Mr. Mullen, the EC's representative on the DRC, reported Cranbury Station, LLC's application was reviewed by the DRC. Mr. Mullen was concerned about several items, including wetlands disturbance exceeding one acre and the Wildlife Habitat and Utilization Potential section of the Impact Assessment Report. No endangered or threatened species were found to be present. This application has been presented to, but has not yet been ruled upon, by the Planning Board. Mr. Mullen reminded the members that the EC has no jurisdiction on the ruling, but can make recommendations to the Planning Board. Ms. Golisano reported the attorney for Cranbury Station, LLC, Mr. Michael Vitiello, called to attend an EC meeting. Ms. Golisano will invite Mr. Vitiello to the next EC meeting on Tuesday, January 21st and will send a list of the EC's concerns to be addressed at the meeting, including information on the mitigation bank, the total amount of disturbed wetland acreage, any impacts from mitigation and understanding property encumbrances.

Preserve Management – Trail Maintenance

Mr. Mullen stated maintenance of the trails will commence again in the spring. Ms. Golisano will include on the March 2020 Agenda. Dr. Rogers reported her husband and a neighbor cut down several trees that were across the trails at the Reinhardt Preserve.

Rain Garden Maintenance

Dr. Rogers reported the rain garden will need maintenance and requested the item be put on the April agenda for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

1713 Historical Home Rain Garden

Dr. Rogers reported the Cranbury Historical and Preservation Society made a presentation concerning the rain garden at Millstone Park at the Parks December 4, 2019 meeting. Dr. Rogers reported the Parks members had concerns and questions, which were answered, and then unanimously agreed to the rain garden. Parks requested CHPS come back to a future meeting when the location has been decided. Dr. Rogers stated since the rain garden was built in Village Park, two additional rain gardens (for the new Library, and now Millstone Park) will soon be in the Township.

Ms. Lowery left at 7:43 p.m. and Mr. Gallagher left at 7:44 p.m.

Sustainable Jersey

Dr. Rogers suggested for future meetings having Sustainable Jersey items at the beginning of the Agenda. She stated there are working groups of residents that are volunteering to work on various projects, including the Complete Street Grant and an energy group led by Ms. Till.

Dr. Rogers reported technical assistance for the Complete Street Grant is offered to look at the roads in the Township to see what would make them more bikeable and walkable. In Cranbury five of the six roads being considered are county roads. The hope is to connect the Village and Cranbury School to the rest of Township. Dr. Rogers stated the High Point to Cape May Bike Path goes on South Main Street and Cranbury Neck Road to Hightstown. She reported there is already support for the Complete Streets project from three bike groups, the Cranbury Library, and they are looking for a letter of support from the Township business community. She reported they also have a resolution of support from the Township Committee. Dr. Rogers inquired if the members agreed to having the Green Team and advisory groups at the beginning of future meetings, and the members agreed. Should the EC meetings become too lengthy, it can be revisited in the future.

Dredging of Brainerd Lake – Dr. Kohut reported there have been no additional meetings, and stated more meetings will be scheduled on an “as-needed” basis.

APPLICATIONS

There were no applications for review this evening.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Connie Bauder reported the Toll Brothers application on the Petty Road repairs will be coming before the Planning Board soon. She addressed her concerns about the EC possibly not being included in discussions and pointed out there are a lot of environmental issues. Mr. Mullen explained the EC members had discussed the Petty Road issues at the last EC meeting. Some

issues discussed included the pesticides in the soil, which Toll Brothers said would not be tested; inadequate base for the roadway; stormwater management, protection of Cedar Brook; protection of Petty Road water quality, high water table, soil disturbance and erosion control; and prevention of acidification of aquifer. Ms. Lia Mastropolo of The Watershed acknowledged residents inquiring about the drywells not draining on Petty Road. Ms. Bauder encouraged the EC members come to speak as residents at the Planning Board. Dr. Rogers stated Petty Road residents need to attend the Planning Board meeting. Ms. Bauder stated errors on Petty Road repairs have been made in the past and she would like support to see the repairs and drainage issues done correctly this time. Ms. Golisano will scan and e-mail Ms. Bauder's notes to all EC members.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

With no further business, Mr. Mullen requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion by Ms. Lowery, seconded by Mr. Mildenberg, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 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 (3) pages, constitutes a true and correct copy of the minutes of the monthly meeting held on November 18, 2019.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name this 22nd day of January, 2020.

Jean Golisano

Jean Golisano

Environmental Commission Secretary