

**MINUTES OF THE
CRANBURY TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

October 19, 2020

TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING

The regular meeting of the Cranbury Township Environmental Commission was held on October 19, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. by remote access videoconferencing in response to COVID-19 and the updated Open Public Meetings Act guidelines.

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 16, 2019 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. The Township website was updated with Zoom remote access information and notification was provided to the Trenton Times, Home News and Cranbury Press on June 26, 2020.

CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present, Mr. Mullen called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m., and Jean Golisano acted as Recording Secretary of the meeting.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jim Gallagher, John Krasting, Josh Kohut, Becky Mathers Lowery, Jason Mildenberg; Paul Mullen, Michele Till and Theresa Vaccaro were present. Lynn Slavin was absent.

NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Michael Ferrante, Township Committeeman and EC Liaison
Michael Pisauero, The Watershed
Sally O'Grady, Parks Chair
Kathy Easton, Shade Tree Chair

MINUTES

The Minutes of the September 21, 2020 meeting were reviewed and an edit was made. On a motion by Ms. Till, seconded by Mr. Mildenberg, the amended Minutes were approved by all members present.

REPORTS

Township Committee – Mr. Michael Ferrante, TC Liaison, reported he could not comment on the dredging project and correspondence would be released soon concerning the project. The last time Brainerd Lake was dredged was in the mid 1970's, with the dredged material resulting in "dirt mountain." Mr. Ferrante explained the dirt now is too contaminated to remain in Cranbury, and 90% of the cost of the project is transporting the dirt to Pennsylvania.

Mr. Ferrante reported Main Street between Station Road and Westminster Place will be closed from 2 to 8 pm on Saturday, October 31st to celebrate Halloween. The First Aid Squad, Fire

Department and Police will assist in encouraging safety, social distancing and offering hand sanitizing stations. Masks should be worn.

Mr. Ferrante reported today was the first day of hybrid learning at Cranbury School and Princeton High School. He stated COVID cases are increasing.

Planning Board – Mr. Gallagher reported the Toll Brothers resolution passed at the October 8th Planning Board meeting. He stated the Prologis application to expand the number of truck bays and decrease number of employee parking spaces was discussed. At the last meeting a number of questions had been raised and some plans had to be revised. Mr. Gallagher stated they were asked to prepare a stormwater system plan, and while Prologis did not want to do at first, they did submit a plan. This application's change in parking did not constitute an expansion. Most warehouses in Cranbury were built before stormwater operation and maintenance plans were required, and currently would have to submit stormwater plans with development.

Mr. Gallagher reported the Cranbury Public Library application is currently on hold, with no additional information to report.

Zoning Committee – Mr. Mullen reported at the September 22nd meeting, signage was discussed in depth and the final wording is almost ready for submission to the Planning Board and then Township Committee. At the October 6th meeting, the Stormwater Management Ordinance was discussed in depth. Mr. Mullen reported the EC's recommendations from this evening's meeting will be formally presented to the Zoning Committee for inclusion into the ordinance. Mr. Mullen stated Cranbury must have an updated stormwater management plan in place by March 2, 2021 (one year to the day the DEP passed their rule). He stated there is enough time to introduce an updated ordinance to the Planning Board, have it approved by the Township Committee and to the County prior to that date.

Mr. Mullen announced the Stormwater Management Ordinance would be discussed at this point rather than later in the meeting.

Stormwater Management Ordinance – The members and Mr. Michael Pisauro of The Watershed conducted a lengthy discussion concerning the EC's recommended enhancements to the DEP's Model Stormwater Ordinance. All members voted to present the following recommended enhancements to the Zoning Committee for further consideration and presentation to the Planning Board and Township Committee:

1. Reinstate the Nonstructural Strategies- The DEP's new rules require developers to incorporate "green infrastructure" into their stormwater management plan but removed the requirement to use "nonstructural strategies." These two stormwater management techniques are not mutually exclusive. Both techniques can and should be used.
2. Remove the concept of "Regulated Motor Vehicle Surface" – Rather than require water quality testing (and TSS removal) for stormwater runoff from **all** impervious surfaces, the new DEP rules require this be done only for "regulated motor vehicle surfaces." The runoff from other impervious surfaces (rooftops, sidewalks, patios, concrete pads, etc.) will no longer have this requirement.
3. Implement Total Maximum Daily Load - TMDL is a calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant allowed to enter a waterbody while still permitting that

waterbody to meet the water quality standards set for that particular pollutant. Per federal law, TMDLs must be developed for all impaired waters in the state. A TMDL exists for the Raritan River Basin designed to improve water quality by lowering the amount of total suspended solids (TSS). This TMDL applies to all water bodies in Cranbury since they ultimately drain into the Millstone River. As such, the EC recommends that if stormwater runoff from any project site drains, directly or indirectly, into a water with a TMDL for TSS, then the required TSS reduction from the site shall be increased to be consistent with the reductions set forth in the TMDL.

4. Address Redevelopment - The Watershed recommends adding a new project type called Redevelopment, defined as any activity on an already developed site that results in the creation, addition, or replacement of impervious surface area. Currently there is nothing in Cranbury's code that compels pre-existing developments to meet current stormwater management requirements. This new concept requires any redevelopment site plan needing board approval to bring stormwater management plans up to current code.
5. Reduce Triggers for Major Projects - Current DEP rules trigger the creation of stormwater management for any project which disturbs one or more acres of land or creates one-quarter acre (10,890 square feet) or more of impervious surface. The EC recommends a reduction of these triggers to a disturbance of one-half acre or more of land or the creation of 5,000 square feet or more of impervious surface.
6. Onsite Retention of Stormwater - The EC recommends a requirement that the volume of water from the "water quality design storm" (1.25" in 2 hours) be retained onsite.

OLD BUSINESS

Sustainable Jersey - There was no report this evening.

Parks Commission - Ms. Sally O'Grady, Chair of the Parks Commission, reported Public Works will clear the northwest corner of Heritage Park, continue to mow it going forward and plant seed.

Preserve Management - Ms. Kathy Easton, Chair of the Shade Tree Commission, reported the Shade Tree Commission will address trees next year in the Cranbury Brook Preserve, Barn Park and the easement near Barn Park to Liedtke Drive. She reported maintenance and pruning of the trees in Village Park and Millstone Park will be started in November. Ms. Easton stated Shade Tree is taking a more proactive approach to tree care. She stated she will give an update next year after consulting with an arborist on best way to handle the Cranbury Brook Preserve.

NEW BUSINESS

2021 Meeting Schedule - Members agreed to the 2021 meeting schedule, as follows:

January 19*	May 17	September 20
February 16*	June 21	October 18
March 15	July 19	November 15
April 19	August - No Meeting	December 20

Meetings will be held on the third Monday of each month (except January and February, schedule on third Tuesday, due to Monday holidays). No meeting is scheduled for August.

APPLICATION

Toll Brothers Development (Block 25, Lot 1) – Ms. Golisano reported a Freshwater Wetlands Transition Area Waiver Application was received for this property. The complete permit application can be reviewed at the Clerk's Office.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment this evening.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

With no further business, Mr. Mullen requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion by Ms. Till, seconded by Mr. Mildenberg, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 9:32 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 four (4) pages, constitutes a true and correct copy of the minutes of the monthly meeting held on October 19, 2020.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name this 17th day of November, 2020.

Jean Golisano

Jean Golisano
Environmental Commission Secretary