

MINUTES OF THE CRANBURY TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

December 21, 2020

TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING

The regular meeting of the Cranbury Township Environmental Commission was held on December 21, 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 7:00 p.m., and Jean Golisano acted as Recording Secretary of the meeting.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

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

NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Sally O'Grady, Parks Chair

MINUTES

The Minutes of the November 16, 2020 meeting were reviewed and an edit was made. On a motion by Dr. Kohut, seconded by Dr. Krasting, the amended Minutes were approved by all members present, except Dr. Mathers, Mr. Gallagher and Ms. Slavin, who abstained.

REPORTS

Mr. Mullen thanked members for their participation at meetings, and stated the EC has accomplished much during a very bizarre year. He stated hopefully 2021 will be back to normal so activities that are important to the EC, such as Stream Clean-Up, Cranbury Day and the Wellness Fair, can be held.

Township Committee – Mr. Michael Ferrante was attending a Township Committee meeting this evening and was not available to provide report.

Parks Commission – Ms. Sally O'Grady, Parks Commission Chair, reported at their last meeting Parks worked on their budget, which included a walking trail in Village Park, funds to replace

fountain heads for the Heritage Park fountain and an ADA picnic table for Heritage Park. Ms. O'Grady reported the Woman's Club of Cranbury donated the lights and bows that Public Works used to decorate the Winter Tree in Heritage Park. She reported the Recreation Commission has funds available from the Mayor's Trophy Fund and requested from Parks Commission suggestions for "wish items" for the parks. There was much discussion and dissension about Recreation's proposed roller blading/ice hockey rink; however, the volley ball courts, lining for pickleball courts and climbing structures/interactive art were all well received. Ms. O'Grady reported the Brook Trail is being well used this winter, and stated Mr. Hanson's municipal land map is a major accomplishment for the Parks Commission.

Planning Board – Mr. Gallagher reported at the December 3rd Planning Board meeting, the Amazon/Half Acre – Alfieri, 343 Half Acre Road, Amended Final Major Site Plan was approved. He stated the Planning Board reviewed and found the following ordinance to be consistent with the Master Plan: Ordinance #11-20-11 – Scenic Corridor Overlay and Ordinance. The Planning Board also reviewed and approved Ordinance #11-20-12 Amending and Revising Chapter 150-61 Stormwater Management of the Land Development Code in accordance with NJAC 7:8 as adopted March 2, 2020.

Mr. Gallagher stated Mr. Richard Preiss, Township Planner, also gave a short presentation on rewriting of the signage ordinance.

Zoning Committee – Mr. Mullen reported the Stormwater Management Ordinance was adopted by the Township Committee at its meeting on December 14th. The adopted Ordinance has been sent to the Middlesex County Planning Office for review.

A concern was raised by the Township Engineer that pre-existing developments may have difficulty meeting the requirement to retain the stormwater runoff produced by the water quality design storm (1.25" of rain in 2 hours) onsite. As such, wording was added requiring redevelopment to meet this requirement "to the maximum extent practicable".

OLD BUSINESS

Sustainable Jersey – Ms. Till had nothing to report this evening. Initiatives will be addressed in 2021. Dr. Mathers reported she and Ms. Vaccaro are working on achieving Sustainable Jersey Silver status for Cranbury School next year.

Preserve Management – Mr. Mullen had nothing to report this evening. Ms. O'Grady reported the Brook Trail is being used and is wonderful to walk in the winter.

NEW BUSINESS

2021 Goals – Mr. Mullen prepared a list of the EC's 2021 Goals and inquired if members had any additional suggestions for the list. Members commended Mr. Mullen on the organization of the list. Dr. Kohut suggested the addition of having EC members participate in discussions on next year's lake dredging project. Dr. Mathers suggested having the School's sustainability statement be more general. For the next round of certification, the focus will be on energy tracking, food and nutrition and green cleaning. Dr. Krasting also suggested general wording for education initiatives

and then include specifics, such as single-use plastics and energy efficiency. Mr. Mullen stated he will add the suggestions and then send it out to members to review.

APPLICATIONS

Penske Permit – Members discussed the DEP permit received for the Penske Truck site on Route 130, and expressed concern that the current development activities may not be respecting the Township's 150' riparian buffer requirement. Mr. Mullen stated that he would walk by the development and, if needed, forward any concerns to the Township Administrator for the Township Engineer or a DEP inspector to address.

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 Mr. Gallagher, seconded by Mr. Mildenberg, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 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 December 21, 2020

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name this 20th day of January, 2021.

Jean Golisano

Jean Golisano

Environmental Commission Secretary