

**MINUTES OF THE  
CRANBURY TOWNSHIP  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

**February 16, 2021**

**TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Cranbury Township Environmental Commission was held on Tuesday, February 16th 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 January 8, 2021 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 7:00 p.m., and Jean Golisano acted as Recording Secretary of the meeting.

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

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

**NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Sally O'Grady, Parks Chair  
Brendan Hanson, Parks Member

**MINUTES**

The Minutes of the January 19, 2021 meeting were reviewed. On a motion by Ms. Vaccaro, seconded by Mr. Mildenberg, the Minutes were approved by all members present.

**REPORTS**

Planning Board – Mr. Mullen reported the February Planning Board meeting was cancelled due to a lack of applications. The March meeting has also been cancelled.

Development Review Commission – Mr. Mullen reported the February and March DRC meeting have been cancelled.

Zoning Committee – The Zoning Committee met twice this past month. Mr. Mullen reported HPC is working towards adding Cranbury Station hamlet and also farmland in the Township to the historic district. The Committee is working on amending the Scenic Corridor Overlay Ordinance due to an oversight that the Ordinance was never meant to apply to single family homes. The Committee is also addressing the Signage Ordinance, and Mr. Mullen reported an update to the Stormwater Management rules may come out in March. Outdoor storage of de-icing materials

and alternative energy ordinance will be addressed later in the meeting. Mr. Mullen stated the Township Committee looks to the EC for guidance for anything that is environmentally related.

Parks Commission – Ms. Sally O’Grady, Parks Commission Chair, reported the Township map prepared by Mr. Brendan Hanson, Parks’ member, was approved by the Administrator and has been posted on the Parks’ website. Ms. O’Grady reported Mr. Hanson worked very hard on the map and thanked him for his persistence in getting the map finished. Mr. Hanson confirmed the map is as official as it can be as he used State maps to input municipal land information. Mr. Hanson confirmed to the EC members that the map will not be automatically updated; however, the information will be accurate for a few years.

Ms. O’Grady reported Ms. Evelyn Spann, Township Committee Parks’ liaison stated many residents are expressing an interest in having a dog park in the Township. The Township does not allow unleashed dogs in the parks, and Ms. O’Grady stated the Parks Commission would prefer not to have a dog park in the Township parks.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Stormwater Management – Mr. Mullen stated there was nothing to report as the second round of rules have not been released yet.

Preserve Management – Mr. Mullen walked the Cranbury Brook Preserve and stated it is in good shape. Dr. Mathers walked the Reinhardt and Cranbury Brook Preserves.

Mr. Mullen reported a group of Princeton High School students is looking to do volunteer work. Mr. Mullen offered some suggestions, including Stream Clean Up, clearing trails and building benches, and stated the group was interested in volunteering for all.

Sustainable Jersey – Ms. Till discussed energy tracking and management to earn points for Sustainable Jersey. She shared with members action already taken and completed, including assessing and creating an inventory of Township buildings, size, occupancy and associated utility meters. Ms. Till stated a Township employee will enter data monthly into the Energy Star Portfolio Manager, which will enable the Township to monitor energy usage. She stated the information is necessary for an energy audit. Ms. Till stated one year of information was entered and must be continuous going forward. The information must be shown to Sustainable Jersey, as well show that there are people in place to maintain it. She stated she will be sending the report to Sustainable Jersey and will send a copy to Mr. Mullen.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Stream Clean Up – Stream Clean Up has been scheduled for Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at Village Park.

De-Icing Storage – Mr. Mullen reported improper salt storage will be considered by the Zoning Committee. Members discussed options of addressing the salt runoff, and agreed the salt must be kept inside out of the elements so runoff does not go down the stormwater system. Violation of Clean Streams Law can be filed as a complaint with the DEP.

Alternative Energy Ordinance – Members discussed the possible complications of an Alternative Energy Ordinance and stated it may be too large an undertaking to be done this year. Members

discussed solar panels on warehouse roofs instead of solar farms; however, space in most of the warehouses is leased so there is no incentive for an owner to install solar panels. Members agreed a clear vision on alternative energy is necessary before working on this issue. Ms. Vaccaro reported there are grants available. Mr. Mullen will bring this to the Zoning Committee for further review.

### **APPLICATIONS**

Members discussed the Flood Hazard Area Verification Approval for the Toll Brothers Application. Concern was raised about the sewer line crossing the stream, and Mr. Mullen will send an e-mail to the Township Administrator to have the Township Engineer review the application for accuracy.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Bill Bauder, Petty Road, reported the State requires salt to be contained to prevent drainage into the stormwater system. Members discussed options to address the de-icing materials, including bringing in the salt on a "as needed" basis; having a storage building to house the salt; and utilize the Zoning Officer to enforce as necessary.

Mr. Bauder inquired if the construction at the Penske property was clear of the Riparian Zone. Mr. Mullen took a look at the property with Google Earth and stated the construction was fine.

### **ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

With no further business, Mr. Mullen requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion by Mr. Gallagher, seconded by Dr. Kohut, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:48 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 February 16, 2021.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name this 16th day of March, 2021.

Jean Golisano

Jean Golisano

Environmental Commission Secretary