

**MINUTES OF THE  
CRANBURY TOWNSHIP  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION  
January 22, 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 Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

**OATHS OF OFFICE**

Jean Golisano, Deputy Clerk, issued the Oaths of Office to Chair Barbara Rogers and new member Jason Mildenberg.

**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, 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**

Becky Mathers Lowery, Jason Mildenberg, Paul Mullen, and Barbara Rogers were present. Michele Till and Theresa Vaccaro were excused.

**NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Mayor Jay Taylor  
Ms. Mona Bhatia, former EC member  
Ms. Sally O'Grady, representative of Parks Commission  
Ms. Kristen Obermeier, Ambassador of the NJ Watershed

*Mr. Gallagher arrived at 7:14 p.m.*

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the December 17, 2018 meeting were approved as amended on a motion by Mr. Mullen; seconded by Dr. Rogers. The motion carried with all members in attendance in agreement.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Preserve Management

Ms. O'Grady, Parks Commission representative, reported her husband tried to take a bike ride in the Cranbury Preserve and had to return with a saw to cut a downed tree as the path was blocked. She reported a footbridge was built by a resident in

Unami Woods and stated the Parks Commission would like to continue a trail from Unami Woods to the Fire Station. Ms. Lisa Rue, Chair of the Parks Commission, spoke to that resident as well as other residents whose properties border the Township property where the trail would be blazed, and none of the residents were opposed to the trail. There was discussion about the trail going through a riparian zone, and Ms. O'Grady stated that no changes would be made to the property, except possibly some prickles would have to be cut.

Mr. Mullen reported people have been walking on the trails because he receives geocache e-mails. Dr. Rogers stated all trails will need to be walked in the spring to determine what maintenance is needed.

Dr. Rogers reported dogwood trees will be planted near the entrance to the Cranbury Preserves. She stated the Parks Commission would like to see a plan where the trees will be planted. Ms. Bhatia has agreed to bring to the next EC meeting a map of the area showing the location of the plantings. That map will then be shared with the Parks Commission.

Dr. Rogers reported Cranbury will participate in the Watershed's Annual Spring Cleanup on Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. This will be Cranbury's 13<sup>th</sup> year participating in the Cleanup. Information will be posted on the web and in Town Hall advertising the event.

#### Sustainable Jersey

Members will work on Cranbury's recertification for Sustainable Jersey. Dr. Rogers reported the Police Station now has a prescription drop off and requested that information about the drop off be included in the newsletter. She also requested that Ms. Linda Scott include information in a newsletter about cardboard recycling at the DPW yard.

There was discussion about action items for sustainability. Dr. Rogers will participate in a sustainability work session at a future Township Committee Meeting.

Mayor Taylor spoke briefly about the Mayor's Wellness Campaign and having all boards be more interactive. There was discussion about having school children walk from Heritage Park to the School with the Mayor one day as part of the wellness initiative.

Ms. Lowery reported the Drug Free Fair run by the Municipal Alliance will now be the Health and Wellness Fair, which will be coordinated by Ms. Joann Charwin of Cranbury School. The Health and Wellness Fair will be held on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. Sustainability Council is invited to a meeting to discuss how the EC can be involved and how to include sustainability. Ms. O'Grady suggested the Parks Commission do something on the Township's trails. Ms. Bhatia's daughter is working on her Girl Scout Gold Award and suggested she reach out to Ms. Charwin about possibly making bee balls. Dr. Rogers requested an article about the Fair be included in the newsletter.

Environmental Commission Recruitment – Mayor Jay Taylor will be appointing two new members as alternates to the Environmental Commission at a future Township Committee meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Ashley Chen, Cranbury School representative was not present at the meeting. There was discussion about trying to get the School to label the recycling buckets. Dr. Rogers stated buckets marked with visual aids make it easier for kids to recycle.

### Development Review Committee

Mr. Mullen gave a background on the new DRC ordinance which allows the DRC to hear and decide minor applications and minor subdivisions. Mr. Mullen stated that he is not able to vote on these issues because the EC member on the DRC is considered an “ex-officio” (i.e., non-voting) member. Mr. Gallagher reported that this was discussed at the last Planning Board meeting, and he voiced concern that the EC does not have a voice on the DRC. There was discussion about the classes that were necessary, and Mr. Gallagher volunteered to be a substitute on the DRC as he could vote. Mr. Mullen stated as a matter of legality, the EC must have a vote on the DRC. Mayor Taylor explained that a voting member on the Land Use Board may vote and, if a vote is necessary, Mr. Gallagher should attend the DRC meeting to vote. Mr. Mullen will continue to follow-up with the township on this issue. At a minimum the DRC ordinance must be updated to *specifically* state that the EC representative to the Planning Board must be one of the Planning Board members (or alternates) appointed to the DRC.

### PSEG Herbicide Treatment

PSEG sent out notification to municipalities, as part of the permitting process, that it will be applying herbicide to targeted plantings. The EC would like information about what herbicides will be used.

### 2018 Year End Report and 2019 Goals

Dr. Rogers requested members bring to the February meeting information for the preparation of the 2018 Year End Report and 2019 Goals reports.

### Parks Commission Update

Ms. O’Grady reported Parks Commission has reorganized. Mr. Tom Weidner stepped down as Chair, and new officers are now: Ms. Lisa Rue, Chair; Ms. Sally O’Grady, First Vice Chair, and Mr. Adam Knierim, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair.

### Old Cranbury Road Walking Trail

Ms. O’Grady inquired about the walking trail on Old Cranbury Road connecting the new Gateway development to the Pin Oaks Trail. Mayor Taylor stated if the walking trail is in the Developer’s Agreement, then it will be done.

## **APPLICATIONS**

Mr. Gallagher reviewed an application from the NJ DEP for a sewer line for nine new homes on Old Trenton Road.

**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 Mr. Mullen, 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 four (4) pages, constitutes a true and correct copy of the minutes of the monthly meeting held on January 22, 2019.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name this 19th day of March, 2019.

Jean Golisano

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Secretary