

**MINUTES OF THE
CRANBURY TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

April 19, 2021

TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING

The regular meeting of the Cranbury Township Environmental Commission was held on Monday, April 19, 2021 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

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

NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Evelyn Spann, Township Committee Liaison
Sally O'Grady, Parks Chair

MINUTES

The Minutes of the March 15, 2021 meeting were reviewed. On a motion by Dr. Kohut, seconded by Mr. Mildenberg, the Minutes were approved by all members present.

REPORTS

Liaison Report – Ms. Spann reported the Penske Ordinance passed at the last Township Committee Meeting.

Planning Board – Mr. Mullen reported no applications were addressed at the meeting. The Board discussed the Scenic Corridor Ordinance.

Parks Commission – Ms. Sally O'Grady, Parks Commission Chair, reported the Parks members made a motion to present to the Township Committee that retail cannabis not be allowed in the Township at the present time. A second motion was made to include signage in the parks that cannabis not be consumed in the parks. Ms. O'Grady reported Parks' members also discussed ways to enforce.

Zoning Committee – The Zoning Committee is close to completing the De-Icing Storage Ordinance. The Ordinance will be added to the Prohibitive Substance Ordinance, #150:10 in the Code Book. Members of the Zoning Committee are also discussing a model EV Ordinance.

OLD BUSINESS

Preserve Management – DPW removed debris, including broken benches, from the Cranbury Brook Preserve Trail. The PHS Wildlife Club students built two benches for the Cranbury Brook Preserve.

Stream Clean Up – Dr. Rogers reported there was a large turnout for the Stream Clean Up, which was held on Saturday, April 17th. The event took place primarily in Village Park, and participants wore masks and maintained social distance. Members of the Woman’s Club cleaned the sandy area by the Dam in the Cranbury Brook Preserve. Mr. Mullen suggested next year preparing a plan for areas to clear.

Sustainable Jersey – Ms. Till, Ms. Vaccaro and Dr. Rogers met to discuss the tasks needed to obtain Silver status for Sustainable Jersey, and reported the EC is on task for obtaining Silver.

Spotted Lanternfly – Mr. Mullen met with Ms. Easton and Ms. Irons of the Shade Tree Commission to discuss ways to educate the public on the Spotted Lanternfly. The Department of Agriculture will be treating the Foreign Trade Zone area on the eastern side of Route 130; however, they will be treating commercial areas only, not residential. Both Shade Tree and the EC would like to alert residents and will prepare notifications to be posted on the website. Information will include residents about the invasiveness of the Spotted Lanternfly, the tree of heaven, why the insect is dangerous and how to deal with it. The EC would like to steer residents to chemicals least toxic to pollinators, and Mr. Mullen is contacting the DOA for guidance the chemicals they use. Mr. Mullen stated members of both Commissions will supply links to State and Department of Agriculture websites. Dr. Kohut recommended also supplying Rutgers’ links.

NEW BUSINESS

Cannabis Ordinances –Dr. Kohut reported the Township Committee will be discussing the new retail cannabis legislation, how it will impact Cranbury and if the Township should opt in or opt out. Dr. Kohut reported other commissions would be offering their input from their commissions’ perspectives on how the new legislation impacts the Township. Mr. Mullen suggested putting the topic on the next agenda for further discussion by EC members.

APPLICATIONS

There were no applications this evening.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Joann Charwin, Chair of the Municipal Alliance, spoke about the environmental issues surrounding the production of cannabis. Sophie Glovier from the Watershed Institute asked permission for the Institute to discuss imperious coverage data they have compiled for Cranbury at the next EC Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

With no further business, Mr. Mullen requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion by Dr. Krasting, seconded by Mr. Mildenberg, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 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 April 19, 2021.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name this 22nd day of June, 2021.

Jean Golisano

Jean Golisano

Environmental Commission Secretary