

**MINUTES OF THE
CRANBURY TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

May 17, 2021

TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING

The regular meeting of the Cranbury Township Environmental Commission was held on Monday, May 17, 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 acted as Recording Secretary of the meeting.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

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

NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

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

Mr. Mullen opened the meeting with comments remembering and honoring Mr. Sal Golisano, long-time Cranbury resident who passed away last week.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the April 19, 2021 meeting were tabled for review until the next meeting.

REPORTS

Liaison Report – Ms. Spann reported the Township Committee will be discussing Cannabis Licensing at its next meeting on May 24th. Ms. Spann stated the TC reviews and appreciates the various Boards' perspectives on this matter. She reported the Fireworks will be held on July 5th at Village Park, and Cranbury Day will be held on September 11th.

Zoning Committee – Stormwater Management Ordinance revisions were requested by the State in order to make the Ordinance enforceable. The Township will make the changes, have attorney and Planning Board Review and will again introduce the revised Ordinance on July 13th with second reading/public comment on July 27th. The Zoning Committee is on the final draft for the EV Charging Station Ordinance, and Ms. Spann thanked Ms. Vaccaro for her assistance drafting

the Ordinance. A sump pump ordinance is also forthcoming and the Chair will provide more information.

Planning Board – Mr. Gallagher reported three applications were reviewed by the Planning Board. The Planning Board offered suggestions to the Board of Education concerning the possible expansion of the Cranbury School Auxiliary Gym. The second application, SciSafe at 8 Corporate Drive, involved the installation of a liquid nitrogen tank and a generator with a diesel storage tank. This application will be continued at the next Planning Board Meeting as additional information is needed from the applicant. The third application by Wogo Biologics was for a wastewater handling system. Additional information is necessary for this application as well.

Parks Commission – Ms. Sally O’Grady, Parks Commission Chair, reported Parks’ members approved the installation of interactive art, three wind structures by Lyman Whitaker, in Heritage Park. She reported Public Works will be clearing the northwest corner of Heritage Park again before planting grass. Ms. O’Grady reported the Municipal Alliance will be having hikes in the Township’s preserves as part of the Mayor’s Wellness Campaign.

OLD BUSINESS

Preserve Management – Mr. Mullen reported the second bench was installed on the Boy Scout Trail in the Cranbury Brook Preserve by the Princeton High School Wildlife students.

Ms. O’Grady reported both the Unami Trail and the Cranbury Brook Preserve South Trail look good. She stated there is no map on the website for the Cranbury Brook Preserve South Trail. Mr. Mullen stated he will look at the site and follow up on that.

Sustainable Jersey – Ms. Till reported almost all of the data for a two-year period has been entered into Energy Star. She stated only an additional two months of energy bills for the Fire House has to be entered and the report will be ready for submission to Sustainable Jersey.

Spotted Lanternfly – Mr. Mullen reported the Shade Tree Commission posted a spotted lanternfly alert, and he posted a second alert advising prevention measures to be taken against the spotted lanternfly in the spring. He stated he will post another alert concerning summer measures and what measures can be taken year round.

NEW BUSINESS

Alfred Meiss Award – Dr. Mathers inquired if the EC would still be sponsoring the Alfred Meiss Award for a graduating eighth-grade Cranbury student. Members agreed, and Dr. Mathers will notify the school and will present the award.

Presentation by the Watershed Institute – Mr. Steve Tuorto, Director of Science and Stewardship, gave a presentation, Impervious Cover Assessment and Reduction Action Plan. Mr. Tuorto was assisted by Mr. Michael PISAURO, Director of Policy. The presentation was a three-year culmination of work by the Watershed Institute, and found Cranbury to have 13.8% impervious coverage where the target for the Watershed is 10%. According to the presentation, Cranbury is comprised of 34% agriculture, 7% forest and 33% urban. Mr. Tuorto stated the Lake Dredging Project will remove organic matter from the Lake, which would extend the life of the Lake.

Environmental Considerations of Legalized Cannabis – The members discussed research information on the environmental impact of cannabis grow houses, which are climate-controlled farms. Dr. Kohut shared information and facts. Energy and water usage have environmental impacts. Ms. Spann stated the EC's input to the Township Committee is valuable and appreciated. Dr. Kohut and Mr. Mullen will prepare a brief memo to present to the Township Committee.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Joann Charwin, Municipal Alliance Chair, thanked the EC for discussing the proposed retail cannabis ordinances, and stated the EC's point of view will be important information for the Township Committee to have. Ms. Charwin reported that due to Covid restrictions, it was decided not to have the Health and Wellness Fair. Instead, the Municipal Alliance is working with the Board of Health and the Mayor's Wellness Campaign to hold an informational Zoom session on the Township's four preserves, with guided hikes to follow on June 5th.

Ms. Connie Bauder, Petty Road, asked that the new Library construction site be monitored as the land was previously owned by Wright's Roses, and the land was previously found to be contaminated. Mr. Mullen stated this was addressed by the Planning Board and the land was remediated. The project will be going forward as the Planning Board approved the application three or four years ago. He thanked Ms. Bauder for her comments.

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 9:04 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 May 17, 2021.

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

Jean Golisano

Jean Golisano

Environmental Commission Secretary