

**MINUTES OF THE
CRANBURY TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

February 22, 2022

TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING

The regular meeting of the Cranbury Township Environmental Commission was held on Tuesday, February 22, 2022 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 5, 2022 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

Michael Cargill, Jim Gallagher, Jason Mildenberg, Paul Mullen, and Theresa Vaccaro were present. Becky Mathers and John Krasting were excused. Mohan Gawande and Josh Kohut were absent.

OATH OF OFFICE

Ms. Golisano administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Michael Cargill who was appointed Second Alternate, with a term expiring December 31, 2023.

NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. Matt Scott, Township Committee Liaison
Mr. Brendan Hanson, Parks Commission
Mr. Mike Pisauero, The Watershed Institute

MINUTES

Mr. Mullen inquired if there were any edits or changes for the January 20th Minutes. On a motion by Mr. Mildenberg, seconded by Mr. Gallagher, the January 20th Minutes were approved by all members present.

REPORTS

Liaison Report – Mr. Scott reported that after a few setbacks, the Brainerd Lake Dredging Project is proceeding and should be completed soon.

Planning Board – Mr. Gallagher reported the application for American Outdoor Advertising, LLC for a billboard on the turnpike was approved. There are three applications scheduled for the March 3rd meeting: Jet Star (liquid nitrogen tank); WuXi (modifications to building); and Cranbury Station, LLC (warehouse).

DRC Report – Mr. Mildenberg reported an application for a self-storage facility on Brickyard Road was addressed. The Applicant will return to a future meeting as additional information is required, and more information is needed from the DOT concerning the reconfiguration of the Cranbury Circle.

Zoning Committee – Mr. Mullen reported the Committee discussed Cranbury's Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance. Its purpose is to protect public health and safety while minimizing flood losses. It must be updated by July 18, 2022 to incorporate higher state standards found in the Flood Hazard Area Control Act. Mr. Tom Decker, Township Engineer, will be the contact person. The Township will probably take the model ordinance as presented and make a few minor modifications.

The Zoning Committee also discussed Complete Streets, which is in the Township's Master Plan. Mr. Mullen reported over 100 municipalities have adopted a resolution to support a Complete Streets Policy.

Parks Commission – Mr. Brendan Hanson reported the water fountain/bottle refilling stations will be installed in Millstone, Village and Heritage Parks. The walking path in Heritage Park will be surveyed to repair low spots which flood and freeze over. Parks is coordinating an "Art in the Park" event to celebrate the installation of three wind sculptures and simultaneously commemorate the Township's 325th Anniversary. Mr. Hanson invited the EC to participate, and stated Ms. Kellie Lavery, Parks member, is the contact person for the event. Mr. Scott reported bicycle racks will also be installed in the three parks. The displaced bridges on the Eagle Scout Trail in the Cranbury Brook Preserve will be relocated to their original locations when the ground hardens and DPW can drive equipment over to it.

OLD BUSINESS

Preserve Management – Mr. Mullen reported a tree fell parallel to the trail in the Reinhardt Preserve. He was able to cut the branches with a chain saw to clear the trail. Mr. Mullen stated the Unami Trail is wonderful for bird watching. He stated that the trail needs new markers.

Mr. Mildenberg left the meeting at 7:25.

Cranbury Stream Clean Up – Stream Clean Up will be held on April 23rd from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Volunteers will assemble at Village Park. Mr. Mullen stated the dredging should be complete by then and stated the area will need attention.

Sustainable Jersey

Community Solar – Mr. Mullen shared with members a resolution that he would like the Township Committee to adopt in support of Community Solar. Ms. Vaccaro explained how the program works, and that the pilot program has been so successful that it was made permanent after two years instead of the scheduled three years. Members further discussed the resolution, and Mr. Scott suggested specific vendors not be mentioned in the resolution. Members agreed to remove the vendor's name. A motion to present the amended Community Solar Resolution to the Township Committee for adoption was made by Ms. Vaccaro, seconded by Mr. Gallagher and with all members present in agreement, the motion was passed.

NEW BUSINESS

RSIS Stormwater Management Resolution – Mr. Mike Pisauo of the Watershed Institute attended the meeting to explain why it is important for the EC and the TC to pass the RSIS Stormwater Management Resolution. This Resolution requests that municipalities be allowed to adopt *“additional and/or more stringent stormwater regulations, in order to allow municipalities to protect its residents from threats of flooding and flood damage.”* The Residential Site Improvement Standards (RSIS) were created in 1992 and are in the process of being updated. Their intent is to standardize regulations throughout the state with regards to residential subdivisions. They contain stormwater management requirements and a clause stating that these requirements are *“the maximum that may be required in connection with residential development.”* The Resolution is essentially requesting the Governor and the state legislature to remove this clause from the RSIS regulations. After additional discussion, and with Mr. Pisauo addressing questions raised, a motion was made by Mr. Gallagher, seconded by Ms. Vaccaro, to adopt the Resolution and send it to the Township Committee recommending they adopt it as well. With all members present in agreement, the motion was passed.

Cranbury Township's 325th Anniversary Celebration – Mr. Mullen requested members to think of ideas for an EC event to celebrate the Township's 325th Anniversary.

APPLICATIONS

There were no applications to discuss this evening.

MISCELLANEOUS

The next meeting of the Environmental Commission will be on March 21, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

With no further business, Mr. Mullen requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion by Mr. Gallagher, seconded by Ms. Vaccaro with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 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 22, 2022

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name this 21st day of March, 2022.

Jean Golisano

Secretary

Environmental Commission