

**MINUTES OF THE
CRANBURY TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

February 21, 2023

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, February 21, 2023 at 7:00PM.

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 6, 2023, of this meeting's date, time and place, and the agenda was mailed to the news media, posted on the Township bulletin Commission, mailed to those requesting personal notice, and filed with the Municipal Clerk.

CALL TO ORDER

With a quorum present, Commission Chairperson Paul Mullen called the meeting to order at 7:00PM, and Mary Anne Brown acted as Recording Secretary of the meeting.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Paul Mullen, James Gallagher, John Krasting, Becky Mathers-Lowery and Michael Cargill present. Theresa Vaccaro, Josh Kohut and Jessica Hess were absent.

NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Sally O'Grady, Parks Commission Chair, Brendan Hanson, Parks Commission Co-Chair and Lisa Knierim, Township Committee Member

MINUTES

Commission Chairperson Mullen inquired if there were any edits or changes to the January 23, 2023 minutes. Hearing none, on a motion by Commission Member Gallagher, seconded by Commission Member Krasting, the January 23, 2023 Minutes were approved by Commission Chairperson Mullen, Commission Member Gallagher, Commission Member Krasting and Commission Member Mathers-Lowery. Commission Member Cargill abstained.

REPORTS

Township Committee Liaison Report

No report.

Development Review Committee Report

No report.

Planning Commission

Commission Member Gallagher reported on applications coming before the Planning Commission for Home Depot and Enterprise Rent-a-Car.

Zoning Committee

No report.

Parks Commission

Sally O'Grady, Parks Commission Chair and Brendan Hanson, Parks Commission Co-Chair reported on the following:

- Questioned the status of blazing Unami Trail and Brook Trail.
- The information posted in the Cranbury Brook Preserve Kiosk is outdated and needs to be updated.
- Invited the Environmental Commission to partner with the Parks Commission at one of the events for the Cranbury Townships School's 125th Anniversary Celebration.
- Trail maintenance.
- Asked if the Brook Trail could be added to the tri-fold map.
- In the Cranbury Brook Preserve the beavers have built a dam and a lodge.

OLD BUSINESS

Preserve Management

Commission Chairperson Mullen reported that the downed tree on the blue trail in Reinhardt Preserve has been removed.

Commission Member Mullen is looking to schedule the World Wildlife Fund Club of Princeton to do trail maintenance in Reinhardt Preserve in March. The two (2) benches the club is making will be placed in Reinhardt preserve. The wood and hardware have been purchased for the benches.

Commission Chairperson Mullen stated that the hunting signs have been replaced. The aesthetics and placements of the signs was discussed.

Sustainable Jersey

Commission Chairperson Mullen attended a webinar intitled the "State of Electronic Vehicles in New Jersey". He gave an overview of the program, including New Jersey's goals for the number of electronic vehicles registered in the future, charging stations, federal electronic vehicle tax credit rules as well as rebates in New Jersey to governments, educational institutions, non-profits and businesses to help offset the cost of charging locations.

2022 Accomplishments/2023 Goals and Objectives

Commission Chairperson Mullen updated the hardcopy of the Environmental Commissions 2022 Accomplishments and 2023 Goals& Objectives from last meetings discussion and provided copies to the Commission Members for review before the final copy is presented to the Township Committee.

Spotted Lanternfly Management in Village Park

Commission Chairperson Mullen reported that all the Tree of Heaven have been removed in Village Park by Dirt Mountain. This saves the Commission from having to band those trees in the spring. There may be other species of trees that have nymphs on them that will have to be banded in the spring and given an injection of insecticide in the late summer or early fall. The EC will be working closely with the Shade Tree Commission on these tasks.

Stream Cleanup

Discussion followed regarding Stream Cleanup Day and also the possibility of volunteers helping with banding of the trees that have spotted lanternfly nymphs during the event.

NEW BUSINESS

No report.

APPLICATIONS

No applications.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Commission Chairperson Mullen addressed the concern brought to the EC's attention at the last meeting from Sally O'Grady, South Main Street, regarding the condition of the walking trail along Old Cranbury Road from Pin Oaks Drive to the Pin Oaks Loop Trail parking lot. He looked at the trail and found it to be in good condition. Ms. O'Grady stated her concern is that the trail was to be returned to nature, but many people use it as a sidewalk, and she would like to see it maintained.

Commission Member Mullen discussed the suggestion by Ms. O'Grady at the last meeting to have a swap pile on Cranbury Bulk Waste Day. He stated that it is held by the Department of Public Works, but the Commission Members are in support of her idea.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

With no further business, Commission Chairperson Mullen requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. On a motion by Commission Member Gallagher, seconded by Commission Member Krasting, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10PM.

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 21, 2023

Mary Anne Brown

Environmental Commission Secretary