

**MINUTES OF THE  
CRANBURY TOWNSHIP  
MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE COMMITTEE ON  
DRUG ABUSE AND ALCOHOLISM**

**January 18, 2022**

**TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Cranbury Township Municipal Alliance Committee was held by remote access, videoconferencing in response to Covid-19 and the updated Open Public Meeting Act guidelines on April 20, 2021, in the Town Hall Offices, located at 23A North Main Street, in Cranbury Township at 3:30 pm.

**CALL TO ORDER**

As this is a Reorganization Meeting, Secretary, Kathy Warnebold called the meeting to order at 3:34 PM.

**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 filed on January 5, 2022, of this meeting's date, time and place, the agenda was posted on the Township bulletin board, sent to any requesting personal notice, and filed with the Municipal Clerk. Notification of remote access meetings, until further notice, was posted on the Township website on April 24, 2020 and sent to the Trenton Times, Home News and Cranbury Press on April 24, 2020.

**CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON NOMINATIONS FOR 2022**

Secretary Warnebold called for nominations for Chairperson to the Board for 2022. Chief, Mike Owens motioned to nominate Joann Charwin as Chairperson. Erin Santise Seconded the vote. A Roll Call vote by Secretary was made for approval. Dr. Susan Genco, Kristine Fulton, Erin Santise, Chief, Mike Owens, Krista Monks. Alternate 1, Anjali Joshi and Alternate 2, Sasha Weinstein all voted Aye for nomination of Ms. Charwin as Chairperson for 2022.

Secretary Warnebold called for nominations for Vice Chairperson to the Board for 2022. Joann Charwin motioned to nominate Robyn Skeete as Vice Chairperson. Seconded by Dr. Susan Genco. A roll call vote was made by the Secretary for approval. Dr. Susan Genco, Joann Charwin, Kristine Fulton, Chief Mike Owens, Erin Santise, Krista Monks, Anjali Joshi and Sasha Weinstein all voted with Aye for approval of the Motion.

**ROLL CALL**

Answering present to the Roll Call were, Joann Charwin, Chief, Mike Owens, Kristine Fulton, Krista Monks, Erin Santise, Robyn Skeete and Dr. Susan Genco. Alternate #1 Anjali Joshi was present as was Alternate #2 Sasha Weinstein. Liaison, Evelyn Spann was not present and Student Representatives were not present.

**MINUTES**

Joann asked for Motion to Accept the December Minutes. Motion was made by Chief, Mike Owens to accept. Motion was seconded by Erin Santise. All Members were in favor, answering Aye.

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT**

Joann opened a conversation about the possibility of having a food truck event as requested by the student representatives at a previous meeting. She asked Dr. Genco about two possible dates when half school days are scheduled; March 4<sup>th</sup> or around the end of school year, maybe June 17<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Genco stated the craft fair is held on March 4<sup>th</sup> and doesn't think it would be a good idea to have a food truck event on same day. As for June 17<sup>th</sup>,

Dr. Genco doesn't have a finalized date yet for end of school year. However, Dr. Genco thinks maybe a food truck event could be held close to that date. She is hoping health guidelines will allow for an outside gathering, such as a food truck event but just doesn't know at this early date. Joann will let Student Council President, Amanda Girello know she had asked Dr. Genco about having an end of school year food truck event for the students.

Joann asked if there will be a January Jamfest. Dr. Genco replied no, however they are looking at another date in the near future. Joann shared with Dr. Genco that at the next Jamfest, a Municipal Alliance Member needs to be at the school to accept delivery of the games and equipment. Joann mentioned Susan Engelbert used to coordinate the delivery and acceptance of the equipment but now that she is no longer involved with the Board. Joann then asked for a volunteer to take over the equipment delivery for future Jamfests. Ms. Weinstein asked what was involved. Joann explained the process. Ms. Weinstein volunteered to take over what Susan Engelbert used to do for the Jamfests. Joann suggested Sasha speak to Penny Ftikas who runs the Jamfest to coordinate when to order the equipment delivery, usually it is about a month before the event. Dr. Genco will let Ms. Weinstein know when they have a date for next Jamfest.

Joann announced the Cranbury Police Department has offered to store the equipment beginning after the next Jamfest event. Chief Owens suggested a moving company would need to be used to move games and equipment back and forth from the school to the Police Department as they have no way of moving it themselves.

#### **NON-MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

None

#### **POLICE REPORT**

Several members of the Police Department were affected by covid and are beginning to come back to work. Officers are working hard with traffic enforcement and overall, everything is going well. Dr. Genco thanked Chief Owens and wanted to recognize the Police Department for all the hard work they do in keeping the community safe. Joann expressed the same sentiment and thanked him as well.

#### **LIAISON REPORT**

Evelyn Spann did not attend the meeting therefore no Liaison report was presented.

#### **BUDGET**

Budget for 2022 will be finalized in the next few weeks.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Joann officially welcomed Sasha Weinstein and Anjali Joshi to the Board as the Alternates 1 and 2.

Joann also mentioned that due to the continued pandemic, the Municipal Alliance Board will continue with remote meetings until the Township Committee feels it is safe to allow all Boards and Committees to meet again in person.

Joann presented the 2021 overview of Board accomplishments which she presented at the December meeting but wanted to highlight two additional items she felt were of importance:

- Researched the impact of cannabis on children and community.

- Partnered with community members and many Cranbury Boards and Commissions to urge the Cranbury Township Committee to opt out of all recreational cannabis licenses in Cranbury.

Joann also added that Cranbury Township will be celebrating its upcoming 325<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Joann would like to incorporate the anniversary into the Health and Wellness Fair. In addition, she reminded the Members that they discussed moving budget line money from Chat Groups category to Mental Health Awareness to provide post pandemic Mental Health and well-being supports to the community.

Joann asked if any Members had ideas for other goals for 2022 and suggested a goal to keep up with cannabis legislation in Princeton and New Jersey. Dr. Genco shared they are working on transitional activities for 8<sup>th</sup> grade Cranbury Middle School Students and suggested maybe Ms. Weinstein could be a connector to take a look at what is being planned through Princeton High School to ensure programs can happen. Joann acknowledged Sasha's participation with the Princeton PTO is helpful.

Kristine Fulton will keep Joann in loop as to upcoming ideas or activities. This week will be first step in the orientation process for 8<sup>th</sup> grade Middle School Students. Joann wondered about orientation happening this summer at Princeton High School. The high school usually lets Cranbury know a date when they can have in person orientation.

Joann asked for any other goal ideas. Sasha appreciates Joann's dedication to mental health. She is also pleased parents have done research and are against retail cannabis in Princeton. Feeling is a growing movement against recreational cannabis facilities in Princeton. The Princeton Town Council will have a meeting in March to discuss and get additional community input about recreational cannabis in Princeton.

Joann is excited that a lot of committees are involved in the Parks Commission wind sculpture installation celebration. The date for the installation celebration will be April 3<sup>rd</sup>. The wind sculpture installations will be a quiet and great place to relax. Joann asked if Members had ideas for more art to be put in the park to bring it up in one of their meetings.

Health and Wellness Fair – Joann shared that it is on the calendar for May 21, 2022 and asked Dr. Genco if it can be held on school grounds on that date. Dr. Genco is hopeful since the Craft Show will be at the school in March. Dr. Genco thinks they should try to have it, especially since it is all outdoors. Discussion about protocols and insurance. It was suggested to Joann to check with the Township as they would know about insurance. Chief Owens said the Police obtain a policy for their Night Out event, so it shouldn't be a problem for the Municipal Alliance Committee to obtain a policy for day of Health and Wellness Fair. Dr. Genco suggested to Joann to reach out to Louise Carroll from the Cranbury Education Foundation as she may know how the insurance works.

Joann would like to put a committee together, up to four people from the Municipal Alliance can participate, to work on the Health and Wellness Fair. She asked if anyone was interested to let her know. Dr. Genco will serve as a liaison. Robyn Skeete volunteered as did Anjali Joshi, Erin Santise and Sasha Weinstein. Joann thanked them.

Joann had one more activity to discuss – National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week. It will be from March 21, 2022 through March 27, 2022. She went over some details from last year's Facts Week and reminded Members there were two Speakers – one for the students and one for the parents. They were so helpful and informative, along with other activities for the students during that week. She asked for ideas for this year's Facts Week and gave examples such as offering presentations on vaping, the Steered Straight Program, 10 questions Teens Ask About

Drugs and Health. All those could be incorporated into the week. Krista Monks thought that would be a good idea as did Erin Santise. Joann shared a slide from the National Drug Abuse website. One of the topics is “10 Questions Kids Ask about Drugs and Alcohol.” Kristine Fulton thinks it would be more appropriate to do the 10 Questions in a Health Class setting so they could answer students’ questions. Joann asked if it would be possible for Student Representatives to create and present a power point presentation to the other Middle School students.

Chief Owens added that the 5<sup>th</sup> grade L.E.A.D. Program is done by Detective Sergeant, Greg Pfremmer and the graduation on that program ends during National Drug Facts Week. Joann asked if maybe Chief Owens could ask Detective Sergeant Pfremmer to incorporate something into that graduation, such as a Jeopardy-type game or another game he might like to incorporate.

Joann mentioned that Michele Waldron liked Dr. Ward’s presentation to the children last year about drug prevention. Would school consider having Dr. Sarah Ward again this year? Dr. Genco asked if by Zoom or in person with parents. Robyn Skeete participated in the Parent Break program and provided information on dealing with stressful current times. Joann says they can do both things again if Dr. Genco feels it is valuable. Partnership for a Drug Free NJ can come and do a free program, with a movie and power point presentation with a question and answer for parents. She asked Sasha if she attended last year. Sasha did and feels it is more powerful to have someone in recovery who has been through the addiction to speak to the students. Joann asked for thoughts on how to incorporate program with students and part of it be someone who can talk about their own story. Would school be interested? Kristine advised school would need to talk it over and make sure it would be appropriate subject matter but thinks it is possible to incorporate a guest speaker. Joann knows of someone from the program Steered Straight. This person is in addiction recovery and speaks to groups as a give back to the community. Joann can reach out to see if he would like to be a guest speaker or if he could recommend someone. Joann opened up conversation to the Board to see about ideas or if they could find speakers or programs they can bring to the students during that week. Robyn has resources she can send to Joann.

Joann would like to ask Dr. Genco and Mrs. Waldron if they would like Dr. Ward to come back to do the program again for students. Would they like to do a Parent Break Program again through the Partnership for a Drug Free NJ or something different? Joann asked for thoughts on maybe a different program for parents. There was also discussion to have a speaker on vaping for the parents. Kristine can look into having a speaker and Chief Owens mentioned Doug Collier, who is an Investigator with the DEA. He will try to find his contact information in case Joann would like to reach out to him to be a speaker or if he has other resources.

## **ONGOING BUSINESS**

There are two vacancies on the Board. Joann asked if anyone knows a person who may be interested, to reach out through the Township website and submit a Volunteer Form to the Clerk.

Joann shared that the following meetings will take place if anyone on the committee would like to attend to learn more about the status of recreational cannabis retail in Princeton.

Princeton Town Council Meeting

1/24/22 at 7:00pm

<https://www.princetonnj.gov/872/Mayor-Council>

Princeton Cannabis Task Force Meeting

1/20/22 at 1:30pm

<https://www.princetonnj.gov/1052/Cannabis-Task-Force>

Cannabis Regulatory Commission Meeting

1/27/22 at 1:00pm

<https://www.nj.gov/cannabis/>

#### **DISCUSSION**

Joann announced that there is a Recreational Cannabis Statewide Informational Webinar created by the Cannabis Regulatory Commission. This is the website for the webinar.

<https://www.nj.gov/cannabis/documents/webinars/2021-10-13/Statewide%20Webinar%2010131%20V4.pdf>

Joann asked if anyone had questions. Robyn asked Joann for links on the 10 Questions and any upcoming meetings.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

#### **ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING**

Joann if there were further comments or questions. As there were none, she asked for a Motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was made by Dr. Genco to adjourn 4:43 pm. Seconded by Mike Owens. All in favor.

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY**

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify, that I am the duly appointed Secretary of the Cranbury Township Municipal Alliance Committee on Drug Abuse and Alcoholism and that this document, consisting of 5 pages, constitutes a true and correct copy of the minutes of the meeting held on January 18, 2022.

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Kathy Warnebold, Secretary

Approved Minutes February 15, 2022