

RAMSEY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING – FEBRUARY 11, 2020

The February meeting of the Ramsey Environmental Commission was called to order by Chairman Nerney at 7:35 p.m. following an extended Green Team meeting. Also present were Ms. Boone, Mr. Carey, Ms. Kymer, Mr. Morris, Mr. Ramiza, Ms. Taylor, Commissioners, Council Liaison Weber, Ms. Hudon, Green Team member, and Mrs. Dey, Administrative Assistant. Also in attendance was Jim Trouf, the borough's Recycling Coordinator. Mr. Greenberg, Mr. Kehoe, and Mr. Parker, Green Team members, left following the Green Team meeting. Ms. Benfanti and Mr. Walsh were absent.

In accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey, public notice of the meeting was published in *The Record* and *The Ridgewood News* on January 3, 2020 and posted in the Municipal Building.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lisa Kundriat, 41D North Franklin Turnpike, was in attendance to observe the meeting as an interested resident. Also in attendance were Connor Behrmann and Brandon Bell, both of Boy Scout Troop 31, along with Connor's father, Brian. They were asked if they would be able to put together recycling display boards.

MINUTES

On motion by Mr. Carey, seconded by Ms. Kymer, the minutes of the January 14, 2020 meeting were accepted as received.

DEVELOPMENTS/SITE PLANS

Mr. Carey reported that the Planning Board reviewed the site plans submitted by the Board of Education for the improvements to the borough's schools, Hubbard, Smith, Tisdale, and the high school.

CORRESPONDENCE

Minutes-

Board of Adjustment-December 18, 2019

Planning Board-January 7, 2020

Shade Tree Commission-November 19, 2019

OLD BUSINESS

SENIOR/COMMUNITY CENTER AT THE MUNICIPAL POOL

The senior center portion of the project is moving along. Mr. Carey suggested that the Environmental Commission keep an eye on the drainage portion of the project.

SUSTAINABLE JERSEY

The deadline for the initial submission for Sustainable Jersey re-certification is Sunday, May 17th. All information must be submitted by Sunday, August 30th. Silver certification seems to be possible. Bergen County towns which have attained silver include Glen Rock, Paramus, Ridgewood, and Wyckoff. Various actions which are being worked on were discussed in detail during the Green Team meeting. The STEM Showcase on Wednesday, March 25th at Smith School will be utilized for the initial presentation for the composting pilot program. Composting information will be available at the Environmental Commission's Annual Clean-Up Day in April to coordinate with Earth Day. Mr. Kehoe will analyze possible garbage cost savings if the borough begins composting. The Board of Health has been looking into a plastics bag ordinance and would be pleased to work with the Environmental Commission, but a survey must be sent to all of the borough businesses before work on an ordinance can continue. That survey could be sent to the businesses along with the clean-up day poster. Ms. Taylor provided an update regarding the Trex Challenge. Kohl's can no longer accept a large collection. She will be spearheading the smaller collections which will be brought to Kohl's.

GREEN TEAM/SUSTAINABLE JERSEY HUB

The 2020 Green Team members will be appointed at an upcoming meeting of the governing body. The next HUB meeting will be held in Upper Saddle River in March.

BIKEPATH PROJECT/GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

A list of suggested repairs and improvements to the current bikepath segments was generated during the November Green Team meeting. There are numerous sources for grants, such as one for a feasibility study, including PSE&G, ANJEC, and Sustainable Jersey. The borough employs a company to write grants. A Complete Streets Technical Assistance application was recently submitted by the borough. The borough applied for assistance to make East Crescent Avenue a Walkable Community corridor rather than apply for assistance with borough bikeability. The initial plan is to work on the restoration of what is in the borough and to bring more attention to those bikepath segments. Information from the Environmental Commission's bike survey will be referenced.

MASTER PLAN

Mr. Carey had no updates to report. Relevant to the Environmental Commission's bikepath work is the traffic and circulation plan element. The Master Plan is available on the borough website. The recommendations from the Environmental Resource Inventory should be reviewed to ascertain which have been completed and which are feasible to pursue.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE

The Planning Board's review is complete, and the revised questionnaire is going out in their packets.

“ADOPT A STORM DRAIN” PROGRAM

Mr. Morris noted that there is an Eagle Scout, Liam Curran, interested in the program. They had a meeting following the Environmental Commission meeting.

ANNUAL CLEAN-UP DATE

The annual clean-up has been scheduled for Saturday, April 18th, with a raindate of Sunday, April 19th.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL LIAISON

Councilman Weber provided some information about the arsenic treatment facilities hearing scheduled for Monday, February 24th. Mr. Ramiza had forwarded information about this issue to the Commissioners prior to the Environmental Commission meeting. The three well locations are East Oak Street, Martis Avenue, and Orchard Place. Ramsey is proposing to provide replacement land which will become dedicated parkland.

The 2020 budget will be introduced. A policy for videotaping of borough meetings is under consideration.

A program about vaping will be presented on Wednesday, February 19th at the high school.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Nerney swore in Ms. Boone.

COMMITTEE/COMMISSION REVIEWS

Planning Board

Mr. Carey shared information about projects which are currently in front of the Planning Board including Lexus and Toyota, 160 Forest Avenue, Porcelanosa, 24 Grant Street, and 83 Grant Street. He had no update regarding the St. Paul's property.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Environmental Commission, Ms. Boone moved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:20 p.m., seconded by Mr. Ramiza, and passed.

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2020

Meeting Date: March 10, 2020

RAMSEY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION AGENDA

General

- Attendance/Roll Call

Public Comment

Discussion/Approval of Minutes

- February 11th meeting

Developments/Site Plans

- Pep Boys

Correspondence/Announcements

Old Business

- Senior/Community Center at the pool
- Sustainable Jersey Re-certification/Green Team
 - Composting-Carolyn Coletti
 - Recycling display boards
 - Trex Challenge/Plastic bag ordinance
 - Bikepath-grants update
 - HUB information
 - Adoption of storm drains project-Morris
- Master Plan update
- Annual clean-up

Report of the Council Liaison

Commissioner Comments

New Business

- All minutes will now be online.
- Fundraiser information-Hudon
- Hubbard Playground-Ramiza

Committee/Commission Reviews (Commissioner assignments?)

- Board of Adjustment-(Miller) (replacement needed)
- Board of Health-(Kymer)
- Board of Public Works-(Nerney)
- Design Review Board-(Ramiza)
- Planning Board-(Carey)
- Shade Tree Commission-(Morris)

Adjournment