

RAMSEY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING – MARCH 10, 2020

The March meeting of the Ramsey Environmental Commission was called to order by Chairman Nerney at 7:30 p.m., following the Green Team meeting. Also present were Ms. Benfanti, Ms. Boone, Ms. Kymer, Mr. Morris, Mr. Ramiza, Ms. Taylor, Mr. Walsh (arrived at 7:45 p.m.), Commissioners, Ms. Hudon, Mr. Kehoe, Mr. Parker, Green Team members, and Mrs. Dey, Administrative Assistant. Mr. Carey, Mr. Greenberg, and Council Liaison Weber 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 again in attendance to observe the meeting as an interested resident. She would like to be a member of the Green Team.

MINUTES

On motion by Ms. Boone, seconded by Mr. Ramiza, the minutes of the February 11, 2020 meeting were accepted as received.

DEVELOPMENTS/SITE PLANS

The Pep Boys plan will need to be reviewed by the Environmental Commission.

CORRESPONDENCE

Minutes-

All minutes will now be found online. Hard copies will not be distributed.

OLD BUSINESS

SENIOR/COMMUNITY CENTER AT THE MUNICIPAL POOL

The senior center portion of the project is moving along and nearing completion.

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. Carolyn Coletti will share her completed tri-fold display board about composting that evening. Additionally, composting information will be available at the Environmental Commission's Annual Clean-Up Day in April to coordinate with Earth Day and will be put on the borough website. 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 will 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. The recycling display boards which were discussed at the February meeting will be created by the Boy Scouts.

GREEN TEAM/SUSTAINABLE JERSEY HUB

The 2020 Green Team members were appointed at the Wednesday, February 26th meeting of the governing body. Information about HUB meetings continues to be shared with members of the Green Team; several Ramsey members are very involved with the HUB.

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. They will submit the necessary paperwork for a bikepath grant from ANJEC. That submission is the third attempt to secure those funds.

MASTER PLAN

Due to the absence of Mr. Carey, there were 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.

"ADOPT A STORM DRAIN" PROGRAM

Mr. Morris provided an update regarding Eagle Scout Liam Curran's interest in the program.

ANNUAL CLEAN-UP DATE

The annual clean-up has been scheduled for Saturday, April 18th, with a raindate of Sunday, April 19th. The usual plans have been put into motion.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Hudon shared information about a fundraiser for some environmentally friendly products. She brought the mesh bags for fruits and vegetables to the meeting.

Mr. Ramiza shared information about the playground effort at Hubbard School. They are planning to do a plastics collection to earn a bench through the Trex challenge.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Environmental Commission, Ms. Boone moved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:10 p.m., seconded by Mr. Ramiza, and passed.

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2020 (ZOOM)