

**WYCKOFF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**  
**Public Business Meeting Minutes**  
**March 21, 2022**

**Date:** Monday, March 21, 2022  
**Time:** 7:00 PM  
**Location:** Wyckoff Town Hall, 340 Franklin Ave., Wyckoff, NJ, Ladderback Meeting Room

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Beth Fischer, Wyckoff Environmental Commission Chairwoman. Open Public Meeting Notice was read by Environmental Commission Secretary Denise Capparelli

“The March 21, 2022, Public Business Meeting of the Wyckoff Environmental Commission is now in session. In accordance with the provisions of Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, I wish to advise that notice of this meeting has been posted in the lower level of the Memorial Town Hall and that copy of the annual schedule of meetings has also been filed with the Township Clerk, and copies of this agenda and the annual notice of meetings, of which this is a part, have been heretofore sent to the *Ridgewood News*, *The Record*, and the *North Jersey Herald and News*, all papers with general circulation throughout the Township of Wyckoff.” Formal action may be taken at this meeting.

**ROLL CALL:**

✦ Present: Kelli Benedik, Denise Capparelli, Beth Fischer, Lisa Koeber, Ben Weiner, Sebastian D.  
Absent: Danyel Competiello, Roger Lane, Mae Bogdansk, Pete Melchionne; Eve N., Justin S.,  
Green Team Volunteers attending: JR Frank

**Motion to approve minutes from the February 28, 2022, meeting.**

Motion: Weiner Second: Koeber

Board Liaison Bogdansk Absent Competiello Absent Fischer Y Koeber Y Lane Absent  
Weiner Y

**1) Priority Review Items**

- a) Commissioner Weiner reviewed the Sustainable Jersey 2022 Re-Certification program and gave a brief overview of the Township’s status and attainable action goals. Silver Certification expires December 2022. Mr. Weiner will send his spreadsheet to the Commissioners and Jr. Commissioners to register for actions and set timely submission dates.

**2) Planning Board – no reports**

**3) Grant Programs for 2022:**

- a) 2022 ANJEC \$1500 Local Open Space Stewardship Grant fund for open space projects. Chairwoman Fisher met with the Township Administrator to discuss applying for this grant to use the funds toward updating signage at Russell Farms Community Park. Ms. Fischer will send information to Denise Capparelli to prepare and submit the grant.

**4) New Business**

- a) Team Up to Tidy up is scheduled for Saturday, April 23. Commissioners/Jrs. will be sent an online sign-up form to register for TUTU tasks. Bags have been ordered and t-shirt design was approved by the Commission. T-shirts will be ordered for the event. Mrs. Fischer and Ms. Capparelli will set up the courtroom Friday afternoon, April 22.
- b) Shred Fest is scheduled for Friday, April 22. Bags for Styrofoam collection were ordered. Volunteers will meet at 8:15am at Wyckoff Community Park to volunteer for Styrofoam. DPW will be assisting for paper shredding and there will be a medicine takeback box available with police supervision.
- c) Spring Composting event is scheduled for Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Fischer will reach out to Partners in Pride member, Alan Gromett, to gauge interest in conducting the workshop.
- d) Send ANJEC recorded webinar on NJ Plastic Reduction Law to Commissioners.

**5) Other Business**

- a) Mrs. Fischer reported WEC and an Oakland Borough Green team volunteer presented to the Chamber of Commerce meeting on the single use plastic bag ban. WEC would like to utilize the local outreach program established by Oakland and Franklin Lakes.

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- b) Mr. Weiner reported that he has been unable to attend the Bergen SJ HUB meetings as they have conflicted with the Wyckoff WEC meeting dates. Mr. Weiner reported NJDEP, Brian Riley plans to roll out single use plastic outreach to other HUB towns.
- c) Mrs. Fischer reported the following:
  - i) Washington Elementary School has implemented the terracycle pen recycling program but are uncertain there is a lot of people participating at this time. They will reach out and make sure there is a bin in each classroom and that all of the teachers are aware of it.  
They are still working with a local landscaper regarding revitalizing the courtyard, and Mrs. Fischer reached out to the landscaper again to follow up. Washington Elementary School will participate in the Team Up to Tidy Up event on April 23 at their school. Their final project this year will be bring a worm to school.
  - ii) Coolidge Elementary School - Jan-Mar. concluded the 2021 used toy drive with Second Chance Toys. April - they will partner with 5th grade teachers who are holding their 2nd annual 5th Grade Earth Day event. They will help with their planned activities to include planting new tree saplings (via NJ Dept of Forestry) in the wooded area behind the school and plant flowers in the school gardens. Coolidge alumni and Eagle Scout Daniel Coughlin will be working on making improved walking trails throughout the wooded area this spring as part of their Eagle Scout project. They will have two more Green Ambassador meetings this May and June beautifying and maintaining outdoor learning spaces, and few fun environmental activities.
- d) Recycle Coach App update for Feb. was 24 new users with a year-to-date total (since inception 2018) of 3,164 subscribers.
- e) Upcoming BCUA 2022 Collection events: Household Hazardous Waste April 3, 2022- Paramus, Tires/Electronics- April 24, 2022- Paramus.
- f) Jr. Commissioner Projects- Details to be discussed and finalized with Mrs. Fischer.
  - i) Sebastian D- interested in organizing a pollinator garden and coordinating with a local Brownie Troop to plant a pollinator garden at Russell Farms Community Park. Mrs. Fischer will reach out to Dr. Postma.

**6) Green Team Volunteer Approved Activities/Comments**

- a) Flow Film Festival- Green Team volunteer JR Frank reported the films will be presented on the first (3) Thursday evenings in May (May 5,12,19) at the Wyckoff Library. The topics are: Micro housing/home design, plastic theme, and a water conservation-based theme (to include reps from Ridgewood Water). A fourth movie in June will be held outdoors in Oakland. The cost per town will be \$600. WEC will need an itemized list for invoicing. A motion was made to recommend approval of funding for Wyckoff's share (\$600) for the Flow Film movie. All in favor.
- b) Mr. Weiner inquired if other aspects of the Flow film series can be used to meet action requirements for SJ Re-certification? WEC to investigate.
- c) Mr. Frank reported a PSA will be sent to Mrs. Fischer for posting on Township website and social media. Jr. Commissioner Sebastian will revise his Styrofoam webinar to be used for the plastic them film and present at the event.

**7) Next meeting – April 25, 2022 – 7:00pm Town Hall Upstairs Ladderback Meeting Room**

**8) Adjournment –** There being no further business, a motion to adjourn by Mrs. Fischer and seconded Mr. Weiner was passed unanimously. The meeting concluded at 8:25pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Capparelli  
Wyckoff Environmental Commission Secretary