

**WYCKOFF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**  
**Public Business Meeting Minutes**  
**October 17, 2022**

**Date:** Monday, October 17, 2022  
**Time:** 7:00 PM  
**Location:** Wyckoff Town Hall, 340 Franklin Ave., Wyckoff, NJ, Ladderback Meeting Room

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

“The October 17, 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, Mae Bogdansky, Denise Capparelli, Danyel Competiello, Beth Fischer, Lisa Koeber, Roger Lane, Ben Weiner, Sebastian D., Eve N, Justin S.  
Absent: Township Committee Liaison Melchionne  
Green Team: Stan Goodman, MaryAnn Crawford

**Motion to approve minutes from the September 19, 2022, meeting.**

Motion: Competiello Second: Koeber  
Benedik Y Board Liaison Bogdansky Abstain Competiello Y Fischer Y Koeber Y  
Lane Abstain Weiner Abstain

**1) Priority Review Items:**

- a) Sustainable Jersey Silver Re-Certification – At this time, Wyckoff has received Bronze Certification with a total of 340 approved action points. The Township needs 10 more points to submit by the second-round due on November 18 to achieve Silver Certification. Mrs. Fischer and Ms. Capparelli will submit additional points pertaining to Energy Tracking, Community Garden, Safe Routes to School, and Public Information for Planning/zoning boards. Wyckoff Silver Certification expires Dec 2022.
- b) Sub-committees – no action updates

**2) Grant Programs for 2022:**

- a) No new grant opportunities currently, however ANJEC will be advertising their Spring 2023 grant in the beginning of the new year. Commissioners to propose grant project opportunities
- b) Mrs. Fischer will speak with Mr. Melchionne regarding any environmental grant opportunities initiated by the Township.

**3) Planning Board –** Commissioner Bogdansky reported that Abma’s Farm is renovating their facility and applied for a variance to expand. The variance was approved by the Planning Board. The variance will allow Abma’s to expand their facility to create more space for agriculture and food/kitchen facilities.

**4) New Business**

- a) The WEC Green Fair is scheduled for 11/19/22 from 11 am – 2 pm in the Shotmeyer Room at the Wyckoff Library. Information tables include What is the WEC/Green Team, Townwide recycling program, No Idling, Styrofoam Recycling, Pollinators, Tree, and Composting, and Spotted Lanternfly problem and what people can do about it by Sabrina A. as part of her GS Gold Award Project.. Invitees include the RIH and IHHS Environmental Clubs, EMS Green Nation, Wyckoff Area Garden Club, Partners in Pride, and Economy Shop. Jr Commissioner Eve has invited all Commissioners and Jr. Commissioners to support her during her event. There will also be games from ANJEC and an arts and crafts area. Mrs. Competiello and Mrs. Fischer will

**WYCKOFF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**  
**Public Business Meeting Minutes**  
**October 17, 2022**

assist/support Eve with planning and organizing for the event. Any purchases of materials can be forwarded to Ms. Capparelli.

- b) The Trex Plastic Bag and Film Recycling Challenge has been implemented again and is running until October 31<sup>st</sup> or until the 500lbs. of plastic are collected. To date, 125 lbs. have been collected with 3 bins located outside the library as well as one at Town Hall. The TREX bench from the previous TREX promotion has been placed at the library outside near the Labyrinth. Suggestions are requested for inscription on a plaque for the benches. The goal is to collect at least 500 pounds of plastic waste to earn another Trex Bench for the library. Mrs. Fischer will put together an updated PSA with the end date of Oct. 31 for the program.
- c) FLOW Film Festival- Commissioner Lane has volunteered to assist with the FLOW film festival again this year. This will be the FLOW 10-year anniversary. At this time of planning, the Commission is asking if anyone has any suggestions for films. Eve suggested American River about the Passic River and Ms. Capparelli suggested Weathering the Storm.
- d) Commissioner Weiner suggested that the Township consider promoting "Leave the Leaves" a program that benefits the soil and wildlife habitats. Mr. Weiner created a PSA for future use.
- e) Due to the glut of reusable bags that residents are accumulating, Commissioners recommended that residents donate their bags to food pantry's which could use them.

**5) Other Business**

- a) Junior Commissioners reported – Sebastian finished his short video on pollinators. He will share with Commissioners Fischer and Weiner. Once the video is approved, it will be shared with the K-8 principals to share with the students, staff, and parents. Justin is working on the script for his video on Trees and will submit to Commissioner Fischer and Green Team volunteer Stan Goodman for review.
- b) Sustainable Jersey Bergen HUB – Commissioner Weiner reported the next meeting will be held at the Wyckoff Library on Oct. 24 at 7:00pm. The discussion for the evening will be the park systems specifically Overpeck Park and tree removal and replacement. The main focus of the Bergen SJ HUB at this time is on Styrofoam and how to process the material. Talk of a county Densifier has been proposed. Mr. Weiner suggested sustainable landscaping best practices campaign for Wyckoff. Possible for spring 2023?
- c) Wyckoff School's WEC Liaison – Mrs. Fischer reported that there is a new chair of the PTO Green Committee at the Eisenhower Middle School and all the elementary schools have chairs for the their PTO Green Committees. Mrs. Fischer will co-chair managing the Community Garden at the middle school. She mentioned it would be a good opportunity for high school students to help and gain community service hours. The elementary schools participated in the National Walk to School Day this month.
- d) Recycle Coach – April = 46 new subscribers, YTD subscribers = 3,472
- e) BCUA: Household Hazardous Waste/Other Waste events – Saturday, Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> in Moonachie
- f) October 21/22 is the last week of vegetative waste curbside collection for the town and the last day for white goods pickup is October 26, commencing in January. Leaf collection has begun in Districts 1 and 2.

- 6) Adjournment** – There being no further business, a motion to adjourn by Commissioner Competiello and seconded by Commissioner Benedik was passed unanimously. The meeting concluded at 7:55pm.

**Next meeting** – November 14, 2022 – 7:00 pm Town Hall Upstairs Ladderback Meeting Room

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Capparelli  
Wyckoff Environmental Commission Secretary