

**WYCKOFF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION (WEC)
DECEMBER 14, 2015 PUBLIC BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

DATE: Monday, December 14, 2015

TIME: 7:30 p.m.

LOCATION: 2nd Floor Conference Room
Memorial Town Hall, Wyckoff, NJ

MEMBERS PRESENT: Harriet Shugarman (Chairwoman); Janice Reynen; Pete Wiederhold; Christopher DePhillips; Christine Key; Randy Hoogerheyde; Haakon Jepsen, Committeeman; Yoonsun Choi, Student Member; Kirsten Skead, Student Member; Jeremy Swenson, Student Member; Susan McQuaid, Secretary.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tom Madigan, Planning Board Liaison; Tess Walpole, Student Member

GREEN TEAM TASK FORCE MEMBERS PRESENT: John Adams; JR Frank.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Harriet Shugarman.

The Open Public Meeting Notice was read by Janice Reynen:

“The December 14, 2015 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 that 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 was taken.

I Motion was made and seconded to adopt the November 16, 2015 meeting minutes.
Motion: Wiederhold Second: Reynen
Madigan AB Key Y Hoogerheyde Y DePhillips Y
Wiederhold Y Reynen Y Shugarman Y

II Public Comment Opportunity
No Comments

III Environmental Commission (Green Team) Activities/Programs/Grants for 2015
Upcoming and Past Events

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- The Junior WEC Members presented their projects to the Commissioners. Jeremy Swenson said that being a sports player and watching the Pulis Field Project unfold he suggested putting in an outdoor water refilling station at this location, which could also be housed inside the new snack stand/restroom building. The Commissioners suggested that Jeremy move forward with his project and approach the Recreation & Parks Committee. Committeemen Jepsen will also approach the Township Committee and Wyckoff Family YMCA. Kiersten Skead said her project addresses indoor air quality at Ramapo High School and that she has been working with Mr. Vander Molen and the High School Environmental Club. The project is still in the planning phase. The Commissioners suggested that the High School could use this project towards Sustainable School's credit. Yoonsun Choi, from Bergen County Academy (BCA), said her project was to bring environmental awareness to the school. She said she has helped initiate a recycling project and created a poster promoting reusing water bottles which was placed near the school water refilling station. She would like to establish an active green club. The Commissioners suggested that Yoonsun write a letter to the school and the WEC will endorse her project. The Commissioners thanked the Junior Members for their service this year and requested a follow up on the outcome of their projects.
- John Adams, Green Team Task Force Member, said he will start advertising for Junior Members for 2016. Commissioner DePhillips will assist Mr. Adams with this search.
- Chair Shugarman said the Monarch Butterfly Way Station at Russell Farms is moving forward. She reminded the Commission that the Sustainable Jersey certification will need to be updated in 2016. She said a training program through ANJEC is being offered through the Rutgers Environmental Steward program which provides training and experience which equips participants to contribute effectively to the process of finding sustainable solutions projects in communities of New Jersey.
- Chair Shugarman said on December 16 there will be a meeting at Chatham Borough hosted by Mayor Harris for NJ towns along the impacted route. She said Pilgrim LLC, which is proposing to build these dual pipelines have plans for them to run from Albany, NY, caring Bakkan Crude Oil to Linden, NJ and refined products back to Albany. On November 18, 2015 Pilgrim announced it had filed for permits in New York, back in August 2015. Committeeman Jepsen said he will ask the Township Committee subcommittee to review the resolution again.
- JR Frank, Green Team Task Force Member, said the Film Festival will be changed to a different nights to encourage greater participation and possibly held at the High School. Commissioner Wiederhold said the Festival is scheduled for April in 2016. Ramapo High School has discussed the festival and would consider offering extra credit and other incentives to encourage the students to attend the film festival.
- Commissioner Key said Ramapo High School will not be having a Green Fair this year but instead will be promoting an environmental pep rally. Some ideas for the event include: education and promotion around bat houses to increase the bat population which will decrease the mosquito population; promoting healthy food; and composting. The high school is discussion ideas for keynote speakers and has also reached out to Harriet Shugarman. On healthy foods, one idea is to have celebrity chefs, and it was suggest that Mayor Rooney might be able to help with this.

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IV New Business

- Chair Shugarman said that State and federal regulatory officials, scientists and environmental advocates gathered at NJIT in December to launch a new coalition, Jersey Water Works, to address longstanding, significant problems facing New Jersey's urban water systems, from crumbling storm and wastewater infrastructure to inadequate supplies of clean drinking water. The need to diversify water resources and improve wastewater treatment processes were discussed. The Jersey Water Works will focus on transforming New Jersey's inadequate urban water infrastructure by investing in sustainable, cost-effective solutions that provide communities with clean water and waterways; healthier, safer neighborhoods; local jobs; flood and climate resilience; and economic growth. Chair Shugarman said at the meeting, speakers discussed problems with New Jersey's antiquated infrastructure and commented that every "3 minutes there is a water pipe break in NJ." Commissioners discussed how the WEC could focus in 2016 on storm water runoff water education, including the use of rain barrels and vegetation that will absorb water in order to keep the water out of the storm water management system. Chair Shugarman said the Commission should revive the Green Team to work on this project. Green Team Member John Adams said this water runoff is a source of contamination. Green Team Member JR Frank suggested supplying a list of trees that absorb water to residents since Wyckoff does not have a tree ordinance. He said that water should be our focus in 2016. Commissioner Reynen said that rain barrels should be promoted in 2016. She said that she was disappointed that the library parking lot was paved which increased the impervious coverage on that property and additional runoff. Commissioner DePhillips agreed that water and storm water management should be the WEC focus in 2016.
- Chair Shugarman said that she will stepdown as Chairman in 2016 and suggested that Commissioner Wiederhold be appointed. Commissioner Hoogerheyde seconded this motion as did all of the Commissioners. Commissioner Wiederhold accepted this nomination.
- At this time Commissioner Reynen stated that she will be resigning from the Environmental Commission but will continue as a Green Team Task Force Member. The WEC thanked Janice for her service to the Commission.

IV Planning Board Update – None

VIII Next meeting

Chair Shugarman said the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 25, 201 at 7:30 p.m.

IX Adjournment

There being no further business a motion was made at 8:35 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan McQuaid, Secretary
Wyckoff Environmental Committee

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