

WYCKOFF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
Public Business Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2019

DATE: Monday, November 18, 2019
TIME 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Wyckoff Town Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Pete Melchionne. The Open Public Meeting Notice was read by Environmental Commissioner/Secretary Capparelli:

“The November 18, 2019 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

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Commissioners: Denise Capparelli, Christine Key, Beth Fischer and Ben Weiner, Planning Board Liaison Kevin Hanly, Township, Chairman Peter Melchionne,
STUDENT JR COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Camille Dash- RHS, Dan O’Connell - RHS, Ashley Park, RHS; Nick Rea, Bergen Academy,
MEMBER(S) ABSENT: Celeste Homaychak, Committeewoman Melissa Rubenstein,
GREEN TEAM TASK FORCE VOLUNTEERS PRESENT: none
PUBLIC/OTHERS PRESENT: none

Motion to approve minutes from the October 21, 2019 with changes

Motion: Capparelli Second: Fischer
Capparelli Y Fischer Y Hanly Y Homaychak Absent Key Y
Melchionne Abstain Rubenstein Absent Weiner Y

I. PRIORITY ITEMS:

1. Sustainable Jersey 2019 Re-Certification – Chairman Melchionne thanked all Commissioners and Jr Commissioners who helped the Township of Wyckoff to achieve Sustainable Jersey Silver Certification again! Commissioners Key and Fischer and Chairman Melchionne will attend the Sustainable Jersey luncheon to receive the latest award.
2. Re-Usable Bag Program- Commissioner Fischer reported that as requested, she will forward the Sustainable Jersey small grant application to Township Administrator Bob Shannon for his review. She will follow up regarding any changes to the grant. Some of the grant funds will be used to purchase the movie *Bag It* but she would like to change the movie to *A Plastic Ocean*, a more recent documentary of current plastic pollution. Commissioner Capparelli will inquire with Sustainable Jersey if this is allowable during the grant period. The other funds will be used to create nice glossy flyers to promote the movie event. Mrs. Fischer will investigate printer quotes for the flyer. Commissioner Key informed members that Glen Rock will be ordering re-usable bags at a bulk rate of \$.85 cents. They are looking for interested towns that would like to place an order with them. Commissioner Weiner inquired if there was a specific design that had to be used on the bag. Ms. Key replied that we would have to use a specific recycling design but we can add our Township logo on the bag. Ms. Key will ask the Chamber of Commerce to see if they are interested in funding the purchase.
3. The Township Committee subcommittee -ordinance prohibiting single use plastic bags. No update

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II. GRANT OPPORTUNITIES:

1. Sustainable Jersey/Gardinier Environmental Fund Grant for \$10,000 was submitted October 21st. Award notification will be sometime in January 2020
2. It Pays to Plug In- the Township is now placed on the list to receive NJDEP grant funds for municipalities that install electric vehicle charging stations (EVCS.) Notification of funds release will be sometime in January 2020. The Township is researching the costs associated with purchasing an EVCS for fleet vehicles at this time
3. No other grant suggestions from the Environmental Commission at this time. Commissioner Capparelli recommended perusing the ANJEC and Sustainable Jersey websites for grant opportunities that may support any future WEC programs.

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. Identification of goals and programs for 2020 were discussed. Commissioner Capparelli provided a draft list of possible projects/programs for 2020 including: building more partnerships (civics groups, places of worship, schools, business), building the Green Business Recognition program, Earth Day's 50th Anniversary. Do we want to have an event- when, where? Stormwater education and outreach, stenciling program with schools, build on the Adopt a Storm Drain Program. Other suggestions included ongoing Spring and Fall Composting workshop, annual anti-idling program in alliance with National Air Quality week, solar education perhaps at the FLOW film festival. Ms. Key requested if Town Hall can purchase recycled paper and Ms. Capparelli explained that recycled paper was previously investigated and that there were problems with the quality and paper jams in the printer and copy machines.
2. Commissioner Capparelli attended the Fundamentals for Effective Environmental Commissioners. ANJEC gave updates on NJ Plastic Pollution regulations and NJ Stormwater regulations. Commissioner Key asked if the information could be uploaded to the WEC website for Commissioners only.
3. FLOW Green Film Series 2020 – no updates
4. Commissioner Fischer reported that flyers, prepared by Commissioner Capparelli, were not distributed at the WEF Gala. Commissioners discussed the “No Pizza Boxes in Recycling” sticker. Commissioner Key reported that Jr. Commissioner Chris Keary offered to spearhead the project. Commissioner Key suggested possibly doing a pilot week with 100 stickers to start. Will need funds from WEC budget to purchase stickers. Ms. Key said Jr. Commissioners have been previously assigned by the Environmental Commission a designated shopping section in town to support outreach efforts.
5. Chairman Melchionne mentioned that an updated Jr. Commissioner application is in process.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Bergen Hub Updates - Commissioner Key reported that the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 25th in Ridgefield Park at 7:00pm. The next Styrofoam drive will be held on December 28, hosted by Ridgefield Park and Oakland, from 7:00pm - 8:30pm. at the Hackensack Yacht Club. All towns are welcome. Styrofoam event Flyer submitted for Township approval for posting on our website. Ms. Key stated Ridgefield Park, Leonia and Oradell have Styrofoam containers for their towns. Fair Lawn will soon have a container and will open it up to other towns.
2. Green Team Updates:
 - i. Green Film Festival – no updates
 - ii. Energy Community/School Outreach- Commissioner Fischer stated Green Team Volunteer Mark Niederman will reach out to Business Administrator Mr. Shannon about approval from the Board of Ed for permission. Commissioner Capparelli stated this energy outreach initiative is part of the community outreach component as required for the SJ/Gardinier Energy Grant program.
 - iii. Fall Composting Workshop- Jr. Commissioner Nick rea reported that 5 residents attended the workshop. Former Township Committeeman Brian Scanlan, a longtime environmental advocate,

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led the discussion on composting based on resident response Commissioners agreed the composting workshop should be a twice a year event- spring and fall. The residents who attended learned about the workshop via the Township Twitter and Instagram. Commissioner Capparelli suggested the Township be given more advance notice of events like these for website posting to provide a more effective notice of the event.

- iv. Commissioner Key reached out to Girl Scout Leader Wendy Rosica. Ms. Rosica has the brochures and has agreed to coordinate the management and restocking of the Monarch Butterfly brochures at Russell Farm Community Park as part of their community service. Ms. Key will follow up with Mrs. Rosica monthly to manage and track brochure replenishment.
 - v. Anti-Idling Campaign- due to the hard work and success of this program by previous Jr. Commissioner Alex Sullivan, all Commissioners agreed that the program should be continued on an annual basis preferably during National Air Quality week, end of April into early May. Commissioner Key/Fischer to lead the project? Commissioner Capparelli offered to develop a PSA for Township posting during the next event.
3. Wyckoff School's Green Team Business – Commissioner Fischer reported that Coolidge, Sicomac and Eisenhower Schools all received the BCUA Environmental Awareness Challenge Grant. The elementary schools plan to use it for their outdoor garden projects and Eisenhower plans to construct a pollinator garden at the school. The schools continue to produce a bountiful harvest in their outdoor gardens. Lincoln School is planning to hold a Make a Bird Feeder school event. Sicomac, Coolidge and Washington Schools participated in National Walk/Bike to School Day in October. Sicomac continues with their Terra Cycle project. Eisenhower Middle School continues to yield a generous harvest and donated food to the Center for Food Action.
4. Recycle Coach App- Commissioner Capparelli reported there were 1658 users to date. Per Committeewoman Rubenstein's previous request, Commissioner Capparelli will ask if the traffic safety message boards are available for Environmental Commission use.

V. PLANNING BOARD UPDATE – Commissioner/Planning Board Liaison Hanly updated the Commission on two items:

- 1. Commercial property construction on Windham Ct. Testimony taken over course of few meetings indicated that there may be a freshwater wetlands issue which need be resolved with the NJ DEP. Counsel for the applicant requested adjournment and indicated that application had been filed with the NJ DEP. Counsel further advised that NJ DEP will not issue a ruling until approximately February, 2020. Matter adjourned until ruling by NJ DEP.
- 2. Van Houten St Residential property. Issue concerns issuance of permit relating to soil movement. At last meeting, testimony taken. Further testimony will be heard at December meeting.

NEXT MEETING – December 16, 2019 at 7:00pm to be held at the Wyckoff Public Library, lower level Monroe Meeting Room, 200 Woodland Ave. Wyckoff, NJ

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

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Capparelli
Wyckoff Environmental Commissioner/Secretary