

WYCKOFF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
Public Business Meeting Minutes
June 15, 2020

DATE: Monday, June 15, 2020
TIME 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Zoom Webinar Online

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

“The June 15, 2020 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 , Celeste Homaychak, Ben Weiner, Planning Board Liaison Anthony Riotto, Township Committee Liaison Rudy Boonstra, Chairman Peter Melchionne,
- Jr. Commissioners present: Charlotte Cannizzo, Lauren Markariann, Ashley Park
- Member (s) Absent-, Lisa Koeber, John Nicol
- Green Team Volunteers attending: Beth Fischer, Christine Key

Motion to approve minutes from the January 27, 2020 with changes

Motion: Homaychak Second: Weiner

Capparelli Y Vice Chairwoman Homaychak Y Koeber Absent Nicol Absent
Riotto Y Weiner Y Township Committeeman Boonstra Y Chairman Melchionne Y

I. PRIORITY ITEMS:

1. Jr. Commissioner Program - Commissioner Homaychak introduced the 3 Jr. Commissioners for 2020 - new Commissioners Lauren Markariann and Charlotte Cannizzo and returning Commissioner Ashley Park..
2. Super Recycling Saturday- Commissioner Capparelli stated all events were cancelled at this and there is no re-schedule date. Township Committeeman Boonstra stated the Township is investigating having a Shredfest in the fall through the NJBPU. The Township will need to approve the event is in the best safety interest of volunteers and residents.

II. GRANT OPPORTUNITIES:

1. Re-Usable Bag Program- Commissioner Capparelli advises she is still working on the program with Green Team volunteer and Committeewoman Fischer. WEC has been given an extension on the completion date from Sustainable Jersey since the public movie event was cancelled due to Covid-19. Ms. Capparelli suggested possibly offering Bag It as an educational online film to the public as an option or in addition to the library event, pending re-opening of the library
2. Sustainable Jersey/Gardinier Environmental Fund Grant – Commissioner Capparelli stated that the Township received final approval of the NJBPU Clean Energy incentives. Air Temp, a Lime Energy Subcontractor under the NJ Clean Energy program will be conducting site reviews at Fire Co. 1 and the Recreation Dept on Tuesday, June 16th. The NJBPU incentives and SJ/Gardinier grant funds will result in a 69% cost savings for the Township and the projected annual energy upgrades will save 98,000KWh of electricity and 4, 600 therms of gas consumed.

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3. NJDEP It Pays to Plug In- The Township was approved for \$12,000 in funding toward electric vehicle charging stations but at this time has declined funding since the Township does not have electric vehicles that support this type of electric vehicle charging station funded by the NJDEP.
4. 2020 ANJEC Open Space Stewardship Grant for Environmental Commissions – the Township applied for \$1,500 toward flex-paving recyclable at Russell Farms Community Park but did not receive the award.
5. No other grant opportunities were discussed

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. Pizza box recycling initiative - Commissioner Homaychak will work with Jr. Commissioners on developing a window or box decal/sticker or flyer to distribute to pizza establishments. Commissioner Homaychak suggested adding Recycle Coach to the promotional collateral. Project team will reach out to local pizza establishments to determine their interest in participating in the program. Get quote and budget information for printing
2. Single Use Plastic Bag – Township Committeeman Boonstra added there was no information on the ordinance at this time

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

1. **Bergen Hub Updates**- Commissioner Weiner reported there was a SJ Bergen/Union County Collaborative webinar on Composting that took place on June 10th.
2. Green Team Updates: no other updates at this time.
3. School's Green Team Business:
 - Committeewoman reported that the Eisenhower Middle School Community Garden is up and flourishing. She suggested Commissioners visit the garden to see the successful productivity.
 - Ms. Fischer mentioned she has composters available The Township website Environmental page has been updated to reflect Ms. Fischer as the contact person
4. Recycle Coach App - Chairman Melchionne reported there were currently 2121 users as of June 1, 2020
5. Jr Commissioner Updates- Ashley Park, currently interning with NJ Food & Water Watch, gave a short presentation about a Renewable Energy Technology feasibility study and is requesting that the Township pass a resolution in support of renewable energy technologies (solar and tidal power) to power the NJ Transit Grid traction power system microgrid as an alternative to non-renewable gas powered sources. Information will be sent to Commissioners.
6. Bergen County Utilities Authority (BCUA)- most recycling events have been cancelled. No future dates have been added. The June 14 Household Hazardous Waste collection location was moved from Bergen Community College (due to Covid testing) to the BCUA Moonachie location on Empire Blvd.

PLANNING BOARD UPDATE – Commissioner/Planning Board Liaison Riotto reported that one Planning Board application was denied due to the unconfirmed source of 774 cubic yds. of soil that a resident intended to use. The soil was requested to be re-tested. Possible site remediation to be conducted.

NEXT MEETING – July 20, 2020, 7:00pm – Location/virtual meeting to be decided

ADJOURNMENT – a motion was passed (Homaychak) and seconded (Melchionne) to adjourn the business meeting, all in favor. The business meeting concluded at 8:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Capparelli
Commissioner/WEC Secretary
Wyckoff Environmental Commission