

# WYCKOFF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

## Public Business Meeting Minutes

### September 21, 2020

**DATE:** Monday, September 21, 2020  
**TIME** 7:00 p.m.  
**LOCATION:** Zoom Webinar Online

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Commissioner Capparelli. The Open Public Meeting Notice was read by Environmental Commission Secretary Ms. Capparelli:

“The September 21, 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 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: Denise Capparelli, Celeste Homaychak, Lisa Koeber, Ben Weiner, Planning Board Liaison Anthony Riotto
- Jr. Commissioners: Charlotte Cannizzo, Lauren Markariann, Ashley Park
- Absent: Chairman Peter Melchionne Commissioners John Nicol, Township Committee Liaison Rudy Boonstra
- Green Team Volunteers present: Beth Fischer

#### Motion to approve minutes from the July 20, 2020 meeting

Motion: Koeber Second: Homaychak

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

#### I. PRIORITY ITEMS:

1. Commissioner Capparelli stated that the Township will conduct a Covid compliant Team Up to Tidy Up (TUTU) Day on Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Volunteers must register in advance with Commissioner Capparelli via email or telephone. Ms. Capparelli added that 23 of the 28 cleanup locations have been filled already.
2. Chairman Melchionne informed all that the Fall Shredfest was a success. About 600 cars attended the Shredfest and donations of face masks were donated by Chabad of Franklin Lakes.
3. Composting and bottle cap events will be discussed for a possible later date..

#### II. GRANT OPPORTUNITIES:

1. *Re-Usable Bag Program*- Commissioner Capparelli advises she is still working on the program. Since the library public movie event was cancelled due to Covid-19, Ms., Capparelli would like to have an online virtual movie screening of the event. The movie company is providing a one-time link to view the movie online. The tentative event date is Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>. Jr. Commissioner Lauren Markariann will assist Commissioner Capparelli with public outreach- promoting the reusable bag as giveaways outside Stop n Shop and Shop Rite supermarkets. Commissioner Weiner offered to assist at the public outreach. More volunteers will be needed to help man the tables outside the supermarket. Green Team Volunteer and Regional Board of Ed Township Committee Liaison Beth Fischer will contact the Superintendents office for approval.
2. *Sustainable Jersey/Gardinier Environmental Fund Grant* – Commissioner Capparelli stated the electrical lighting upgrades to Town Hall, DPW and Fire Co. 1 are almost complete. Scheduling is underway for HVAC upgrades. Plans for public outreach are still in process.
3. No other grant opportunities were discussed

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**III. NEW BUSINESS**

1. ANJEC- all training programs are offered online. .
2. Single Use Plastic Bag – On Thursday, September 24, the NJ legislation A1978/S864 is awaiting final bi-partisan support from the NJ Assembly's to pass the Plastic Pollution Reduction Act . If the bill passes the Assembly it will await final signature and approval from Governor Murphy to be signed into law.
3. Ridgewood Water- no updates

**IV. OTHER BUSINESS**

1. Jr Commissioner Updates-
  - Ashley Park, has joined the creative youth SJ Bergen Arts and is hosting a competition for middle schools to create a them for Climate Change. This project can help communities to earn Sustainable Jersey points in the Arts & Creative Culture category. Commissioners commended her on her initiative and It was recommended that Ms. Park work with the Bergen Sustainable Jersey HUB on this project. For her WEC project, Ms. Park has chosen to create an elementary level child friendly educational coloring book about the importance of Climate Change.
  - Charlotte Cannizzo has developed a proposal to promote a pizza box partnership recycling at Abma's Farm. Ms. Cannizzo contacted Mr. Abma to discuss the possibility of using pizza boxes as a composting alternative. Composting of the boxes would benefit in helping to suppress weeds and add carbon nutrients back into the soil. Questions arose about who would provide a drop box for the pizza boxes and where would it be located. Commissioners to contact Mr. Boonstra and Administrator Shannon about the drop box.
  - Lauren Markariann will assist Commissioner Capparelli and Green Team volunteer Beth Fischer on the promotion of the reusable bag promotion. Ms. Markariann will reach out to the middle and high schools after approval from the Superintendent to promote the Bag It online movie to students and families
  - Commissioner Homaychak reported that she reached out to the Sicomac school parent environmental liaison to discuss plans for 2020 and is waiting to for her feedback.
2. Bergen HUB updates – Commissioner Weiner reported on the Borough of Glen Rock Styrofoam drive. The drive resulted in 20 yards of Styrofoam collected for recycling. Glen Rock was unclear of how they were going to dispose of the Styrofoam.
3. Green Team Updates – none at this time
4. School's Green Team Business: no further updates
5. Recycle Coach App – Commissioner Capparelli reported Recycle Coach also known as My Waste has developed a new portal and reports will be updated shortly.
6. Russell Farms Composting- Commissioner Weiner has offered to coordinate another compost event
7. Bergen County Utilities Authority (BCUA)- HHW was held on September 12<sup>th</sup> in Mahwah. The next collection is Sunday, October 18 in Paramus
8. Planning Board Report – Mr. Riotto updated the Commission and reported that the Township Master Plan was adopted and that the plan provides a conceptual layout to guide future growth and development that make connection between buildings, social settings, and their surrounding natural environments
9. Next Meeting – October 19, 2020, 7:00pm – Location/virtual meeting to be decided

**ADJOURNMENT** – a motion was passed (Homaychak) and seconded (Capparelli) 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