

WYCKOFF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
Public Business Meeting Minutes
September 20, 2021

Date: Monday, September 20, 2021
Time: 7:00 PM
Location: Upstairs Ladder Back Conference Room

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Commissioner, Celeste Homaychak, Wyckoff Environmental Commission. The Open Public Meeting Notice was read by Environmental Secretary/Commissioner Denise Capparelli

“The September 20, 2021 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: Denise Capparelli, Beth Fischer, Celeste Homaychak, Roger Lane, Ben Weiner, and Township Committee Liaison Rudy Boonstra and Jr Commissioners Sebastian Dash
- ✦ Absent: Lisa Koeber, Charlotte Cannizzo, Lauren Markariann
- ✦ Green Team Volunteers present: Erika Kao (new member)

Motion to approve minutes from the July 19, 2021 meeting.

Motion: Lane; Second: Fischer

Capparelli Abstain Fischer Y Koeber Absent Lane Y Weiner Y
Planning Board Liaison Bogdansk Y Chairwoman Homaychak Y

I. Priority Review Items

1. *Single Use plastic/paper bag ordinance* – Awaiting further instructions from ANJEC for mandating and disseminating this new statutory law in town. WEC is utilizing a “Bag Up NJ” flyer created by the NJDEP for WEC events and distribution to the Chamber of Commerce. Discussed including information in the next 2022 Town Calendar to educate citizens.
2. Commissioner Weiner inquired what happens to the annual \$37K grant given to Wyckoff by Clean Communities? It was proposed some funds be set aside for the following projects:
 - a. Include plastic bag reduction ban in calendar, newsletters, each Weekly E-Blast, and tax bills being mailed out which would include a notice about informing (Commissioner Homaychak offered to draft language)
 - b. Consider using the grant monies to purchase reusable bags, and paper to print information to be mailed to all households.
 - c. Informational flyer to send home in K-8 Backpacks.(Commissioner Fischer to coordinate)
 - d. Any other ideas?

II. Planning Board update – August meeting was cancelled. No business to report.

III. Grant Programs for 2021: The Township will apply for all grant opportunities in 2021

- a. Priority- SJ/Gardinier Environmental Fund Completed-- energy efficient air conditioning unit to the Larkin House. Commissioner Capparelli gave an update on the final report submission and cost and energy savings to the Township.
- b. Other new grant opportunities? Please provide thorough and complete information to Ms. Capparelli

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IV. New Business

- a. Electric Vehicle Charging Stations (EVCS) update – A project team meeting to discuss details of an EVCS for Township fleet vehicles is being scheduled. Grant funding from NJDEP It Pays to Plug In requires many stipulations and the Township is deciding if utilizing the funds is cost effective.
- b. RecycleBalls tennis recycling program update – Commissioner Homaychak reported that Mr. Ho has begun the process of contacting RecycleBalls for the containers and has begun collecting the tennis balls at the town tennis courts. Currently there are 2 bins at the Township tennis courts. If Mr. Ho is unable to manage the program, the Environmental Commission will oversee coordination of the program.
- c. Fall Shred Fest-- scheduled for Friday, October 15 . A Styrofoam Drive has been added to the event. Ms. Capparelli will follow up with Poly Molding in Haskell to confirm Styrofoam collection drop-off after the event. It was suggested to have a small handout with information (to be decided) at the collection event to hand out to residents.
- d. Growing the Green Team- 5 new Green team volunteers from Wyckoff Day have expressed interest in joining. WEC requesting more outreach via social media posts to promote more volunteers for the Green Team. Some local teachers are interested in joining as a resource for their teaching.
- e. Wyckoff Day was very successful; many residents visited the WEC table and lots of information was distributed. Children enjoyed the Climate Change pin ball and Guess the Weight of Plastic Bags games and winning the prizes and t-shirts. Five residents signed on to help as Green Team volunteers. Next year it will be more productive to have 2 tables.
- f. Ridgewood Water- more information and discussion to follow regarding water quality issues in Wyckoff. Ridgewood water is holding open public meetings. See their website for more information.
- g. The Township has added a referendum to the 2021 November general election ballot- Open Space Bond Referendum. Mr. Boonstra suggested that the Environmental Commission create awareness of this important ballot question to the public. Mr. Weiner requested a list of open space projects that were recipients of the previous Open Space funding.
- h. Mrs. Homaychak recommended all Commissioners look at the Sustainable Jersey website as we start thinking about re-certification for 2022. Ms. Capparelli will follow up with Sustainable Jersey regarding information about re-certification.

V. Other Business

- a. Jr. Commissioner Projects and Updates
 - a. Lauren- Trex plastic recycling program – doing great!
 1. Over 240lbs plastic collected with 200lbs collected in just 2 weeks. Plastic was weighed and dropped off at Stop and Shop.
 - b. Sebastian –
 1. Completed a fantastic video to show in the elementary schools. Need permission to post on Township website and social media to promote collection event
 2. Drawing contest for school/community
 - c. Charlotte – 10-12 PSAs for K-8 schools –
 1. First PSA to start week of September 20th
- b. Sustainable Jersey Bergen HUB updates – Mr. Weiner reported a Bergen County wide Styrofoam event will be held in Mahwah on Oct. 30th. There is a Styrofoam HUB subcommittee discussing a county wide Styrofoam collection. There was an informational show on electric vehicles. Mr.

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Weiner reported there is no meeting for September and the theme for the October meeting is how can the HUB work more cooperatively.

- c. Stormwater Management – Township adopted new stormwater ordinances but awaiting guidance on enforcement. Mr. Weiner requested information on trash and recycling tonnage monthly. Ms. Capparelli stated at this time we only have tonnage information for trash.
- d. Recycle Coach App update – for August -- 30 new subscribers. 2,321 to date since inception
- e. BCUA - Household Hazardous Waste- Oct. 17- Paramus and Recycling Event Other Tires/Electronics/Mobile Paper Shredding – October 3, Mahwah

VI. Green Team Volunteer Approved Activities/Comments

- a. Wyckoff School's WEC Liaison update – Mrs. Fischer reported that all schools now have Green Teams

VII. Next meeting – October 18, 2021

VIII. Adjournment – There being no further business. A motion to adjourn by Mr. Lane and seconded by Mr. Weiner was passed unanimously. The meeting concluded at 8:32pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Denise Capparelli
Environmental Commissioner/Secretary