

WYCKOFF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

May Public Business Meeting Minutes

DATE: Monday, May 21, 2018
TIME: 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: 2nd Floor Conference Room
Memorial Town Hall, Wyckoff, NJ

MEMBERS PRESENT: Christine Key; Tom Madigan, Committeeman; Denise Capparelli; Celeste Homaychak; Peter Melchionne; Matt Cascio; Randy Hoogerheyde; Robert Fortunato, Planning Board Liaison; Nick Rea, Junior Member Bergen Academies; Alex Sullivan, Junior Member Ramapo; Allison Sassano, Junior Member Ramapo; Dan O'Connell, Junior Member Ramapo; Susan McQuaid, Secretary. **ABSENT:** Jasmine Ho, Junior Member Indian Hills.

GREEN TEAM TASK FORCE VOLUNTEERS: JR Frank; John Adams; Ryan Lewis.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Township Committeeman Tom Madigan.

The Open Public Meeting Notice was read by Tom Madigan:

"The May 21, 2018 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.

Committeeman Madigan Introduced new member Matt Cascio. Matt Cascio was welcomed by the Wyckoff Environmental Commissioners. Committeeman Madigan then proceeded to lead the meeting in the absence of a Chairman.

I Motion to approve minutes from the April 16, 2018 meeting

Motion: Fortunato Second: Melchionne
Fortunato Y Melchionne Y Homaychak Y Capparelli Y
Cascio ABS Key Y Hoogerheyde Y Madigan Y

II Environmental Commission (Green Team) Activities/Programs/ANJEC Grants for 2018 - Upcoming and Past Events

1. Green Team volunteers – initiative for new members

The Commissioners continue to recruit Green Team Members.

III NEW BUSINESS

1. **NJ CLEAN ENERGY PROGRAM** – Home Energy Audit Program

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WEC 05/21/2018 Minutes

WYCKOFF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

May Public Business Meeting Minutes

The Commissioners reported that this project remains on hold until the ERI has been completed.

2. ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE INVENTORY PROJECT - Update

Commissioner Capparelli said this project needs final review before it can be published. The report will be electronically put on the Wyckoff website, schools, library, etc. and 5 hard copies will need to be printed for placement at the Wyckoff Library, Municipal Clerk's Office, Eisenhower School Library, Township Engineer and Planning Board office. She said that last subcommittee meeting was March 13. Upon discussion with the Commissioners a final meeting has been set for next Wednesday, May 30th at town hall. Commissioner Capparelli announced that the 2019 calendar theme will be the ERI.

3. SUSTAINABLE JERSEY – Certification renewal progress

The Commissioners reported that this project remains on hold until the ERI has been completed.

4. RECYCLOMETER – Update

Commissioner Key said the April percentage is 37.84%. The Commissioners asked if white goods and vegetative waste were included in this calculation.

5. FISHING DERBY/WYCKOFF DAY – Saturday, June 2, 2018

Commissioners Madigan said volunteers are needed to set up and staff the fishing derby at Zabriskie Pond from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and also later on at the WEC booth at Wyckoff Day from 12 noon to 4 p.m. Commissioner Capparelli said she will review the essential volunteer staffing needed at the Fishing Derby with Fran Piskadlo. Commissioner Fortunato and Commissioner Madigan will assist at the Fishing Derby. Commissioners Homyachak, Junior Commissioners Dan O'Connell, Nick Rea and Alex Sullivan and Green Team Member John Adams will assist at Wyckoff Day. There will be a raffle giveaway of a composter and also extra T-shirts from the Team Up to Tidy up (TUTU) event. Brochures and butterfly pamphlets will also be available on the table.

Commissioner Homyachak said that "Mayor's Field Day Fun" is a free event, with child/parent or grandparent teams. There will be planned competitions in three-legged race, sack race, picnic basket relay, over-under, and a water balloon toss. Medals will be awarded.

6. ARBOR DAY – Friday, April 27, 2018 – Update

Commissioner Madigan said 4 trees were planted at the Wyckoff Community Park.

7. TUTU - Saturday, April 28, 2018 – Update

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WEC 05/21/2018 Minutes

Page 2 of 6

WYCKOFF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

May Public Business Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Madigan said this event was a success. Commissioner Homaychak suggested that the boy and girl scouts should not clean the school since the students assist with their own schools.

8. SHREDFEST – Saturday, April 28, 2018 – Update

Commissioner Capparelli said 62 bags of trash and 43 bags of recycle were collected. She suggested that next year photographs be taken during the event and submitted for placement on the WEC website. Commissioner Key thanked Commissioner Capparelli for running the Shredfest. It was noted that 300 residents attended the Shredfest and 6,000 lbs. or 3 tons of paper were collected.

9. BERGEN H.U.B. – Update

Commissioner Key said that Wyckoff hosted the Thursday, May 10 HUB meeting at the Wyckoff library at 7:30 p.m. Approximately 30 people attended. Mayor Scanlan spoke at this event as well as Beth Fischer, Wyckoff Green Team Liaison. The guest speaker spoke on EV charging stations. The next meeting will be hosted in Glen Rock on Thursday, June 7 at 7:30 p.m. There will be a guest speaker who will speak about the association of renewal government energy. Green Team Member John Adams said he is seeing a lot of activity regarding Styrofoam.

Commissioner Key said there will be a summer internship at HUB either at Bergen Community College or Ramapo College on what should and shouldn't be recycled in a brochure. Commissioner Homaychak said Junior Commissioner Jasmine Ho is working on improving recycling efforts.

Commissioner Key also said that other towns have been hiring a person to write grants and asked Commissioner Madigan if this was possible to do in the future. Commissioner Homaychak said the person who writes the grants would get paid contingent upon the grant being approved. Commissioner Madigan asked Commissioner Homaychak to research hiring a grant manager. Commissioner Key thanked everyone who participated in the May 10 HUB meeting.

10. JUNIOR MEMBER PROJECTS

Commissioner Madigan announced that Junior Commissioners Dan O'Connell and Nick Rea will give a 10 minute each presentation to the Township Committee at the Tuesday, June 4th Township Committee meeting at 7 p.m. Commissioner Homaychak said she will check into getting a projector for the Junior Commissioners to use at the meeting. Commissioner Madigan asked that the WEC attend the June 4th meeting in support of the Junior Commissioners.

Junior Commissioner Nick Rea is working on a pdf of his newsletter and will need pictures emailed to him of past events. Junior Commissioner Dan O'Connell said he continues to research charging stations. Junior Member Allison Sassano said she is taking pictures of recycle bins to bring into the classrooms. And Junior Member Alex Sullivan is writing a script to go along with his documentary on idling.

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WEC 05/21/2018 Minutes

Page 3 of 6

WYCKOFF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

May Public Business Meeting Minutes

11. WYCKOFF SCHOOL'S GREEN WEC/WGT LIAISON REPORT

Commissioner Key said she did not receive any information from the liaison for this meeting. However, the information was forwarded and has been inserted into the minutes.

Beth Fischer, Wyckoff School's Green Liaison to the WEC/WGT reported that at Coolidge Elementary School: Bring a Worm to School Day - April 25; Clean Up Day - May 2 - 50+ Green Ambassadors cleaned, weeded and tilled school grounds and 2 courtyards; Planting Day - May 14 - 50+ Green Ambassadors participated in trash/recycling clean up on school grounds and Sensory Garden planting; Bike Rally - Bike and Walk to School Day - 5/18; Sensory Garden Art Creation Day - 5/31; TerraCycle Playground Contest is ongoing; Plastic Bag Bin in hallway we are learning a lot as we go. At Lincoln Elementary School Report: peace garden spring planting & kindness rock painting craft was held Friday 5/11; bike / walk to school event scheduled for Wednesday 5/23; "create a pot" to be held on Friday 6/15; and we added a bin for plastic bag recycling outside main office. At the Sicomac Elementary School: we had a very successful Healthy Living Fair and Recycled Planter Contest. We had 8 local vendors donate their time to set up tables and 6 companies donate healthy snacks. We collected 95 pounds of batteries for recycling and 175 pairs of shoes. The Kindergarten students are working on their science unit in the Outdoor Classroom, following the life cycle of some tadpoles we put in the koi pond and will be planting flowers and vegetables in a raised bed. The 4th grade Junior Girl Scout troop planted flowers at the Sicomac School sign. And at Eisenhower Middle School: the 6th grade Cadet troop planted pollinator plants in the courtyard outside the 8th grade science classroom. The 3 raised beds with pollinator plants in the Community Garden are doing well. Most survived the winter and the 8th grade science classes are tending to them and will mulch the beds. The 6th grade science classes started vegetables in the greenhouse and will plant those in the raised beds. The plan is to harvest them over the summer and donate them to the Cornerstone Church foodbank.

IV OLD BUSINESS

1. MAYOR'S WELLNESS COMMITTEE (a component of Sustainable Jersey)

Commissioner Madigan said the Mayor's Wellness Facebook page is updated every week with useful and timely wellness information for residents.

2. WEC WEBSITE/FACEBOOK/TWITTER – Update

Commissioner Key said the bulletin outlining the school district's project of painting rocks was sent to Nancy Cole to post. She was told that separate schools cannot be posted on the Wyckoff Website (the Township's website is not a "public forum"). Commissioner Madigan said that township sponsored events can only be posted on the Wyckoff Website. He said the township's social media policy is not a public forum; it is for township events. It can be posted on the school's social media. Commissioner Homyachak requested the WEC get their own FB page for posting.

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WEC 05/21/2018 Minutes

Page 4 of 6

WYCKOFF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

May Public Business Meeting Minutes

V PLANNING BOARD UPDATE – Robert Fortunato

Commissioner Fortunato said the Meer project was approved for four (4) zoning compliant lots and preserving the Meer Manor house and currently trees are being removed for the construction of the footprints of new homes. He said the existing Meer Manor house will be saved and preserved. He also reported that the Jersey Mike's application on Godwin Avenue was approved.

VI WYCKOFF GREEN TEAM TASK FORCES

In 2011, as part of Wyckoff's participation in the Sustainable Jersey Program, the Environmental Commission was appointed the Wyckoff Green Team. The following five (5) Green Team Task Forces were established as an advisory body to the Wyckoff Environmental Commission:

#1 - COMMUNITY

Partnership and Outreach, Diversity & Equity, Health and Wellness, Food, Arts, Culture & Historic Preservation. Celeste Homyachak, Christine Key, John Adams, Beth Fischer, (Randy Hoogerheyde- tbc).

#2 - BUILDING AND ENERGY

Energy Efficiency, Green House Gas/Municipal Carbon Footprint, Green Design, Innovative Demonstration Projects. Robert Fortunato, JR Frank, (Randy Hoogerheyde- tbc).

#3 - LAND USE AND LOCAL BUSINESS

Land Use & Transportation, Local Economies, Natural Resources, Animals in the Community. Robert Fortunato, Peter Melchionne, (Randy Hoogerheyde- tbc).

#4 - WASTE MANAGEMENT, OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES

Denise Capparelli, Peter Melchionne, John Adams, Beth Fischer, (Randy Hoogerheyde tbc).

Green Team Member John Adams said he has worked on waste management for Sustainable Jersey points. He said the HUB is looking at all Bergen County towns. Glen Rock is working on recharging electric car stations. He suggested that the WEC look into funding Styrofoam and plastic bag collections. Commissioner Homyachak said she has seen where plastic bags have been collected and made into reusable bags. John Adams also said water conservation is another issue of concern. Commissioner Hoogerheyde asked if the WEC could fund a collection for Styrofoam. John Adams said the county is sponsoring a HUB drive the end of September.

Commissioner Capparelli said the Sustainable Gold star standards have been announced for Sustainable Jersey which include reducing solid waste and energy. She mentioned there is a Sustainable Jersey Action in the waster category for prescription drug safety and disposal. This action counts toward God status. The police have currently implemented a medicine drop off program. We are looking into getting sustainable jersey action points for this program. Commissioner Key said that Ridgewood EC is working for gold in waste. She questioned whether we could work

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WEC 05/21/2018 Minutes

Page 5 of 6

WYCKOFF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION May Public Business Meeting Minutes

together with them. She said there is a Sustainable Jersey workshop on June 21 at the College of New Jersey.

#5 - MEDIA AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

Christine Key, Celeste Homaychak

VII Next meeting – June 18, 2018

VIII Adjournment

There being no further business a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 p.m. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan McQuaid, Secretary
Wyckoff Environmental Committee