

WYCKOFF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
Public Business Meeting Minutes (revised 2/25/19)
January 28, 2019

DATE: Monday, January 28, 2019
TIME 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Wyckoff Town Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners: Denise Capparelli, Matt Cascio, Beth Fischer, Robert Fortunato (Planning Board Liaison), Celeste Homaychak, Christine Key, Peter Melchionne, Melissa Rubenstein (Township Committeewoman)

Jr Commissioners: John Cannizzo, RHS; Camille Dash, RHS; Jasmine Ho: IHHS; Christopher Keary, RHS; Dan O'Connell: RHS; Ashley Park, BCTECH; Nick Rea: Bergen Academies

MEMBER(S) ABSENT: Jack Stathis, Jr Commissioner

GREEN TEAM TASK FORCE VOLUNTEERS PRESENT John Adams, JR Frank, Mark Niederman, Alex Sullivan

PUBLIC PRESENT: None

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Commissioner Melchionne

The Open Public Meeting Notice was read by Environmental Commissioner/Secretary Denise Capparelli:

“The January 28, 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.

Motion to approve minutes from the December 17, 2018 meeting as amended

Motion: _____ Homaychak _____ Second: _____ Fortunato _____
Capparelli _____ Y _____ Cascio _____ Y _____ Fischer _____ Abs _____ Fortunato _____ Y _____ Homaychak _____ Y _____
Key _____ Y _____ Melchionne _____ Y _____

Motion to approve Peter Melchionne as new WEC Chairman

Motion: _____ Fortunato _____ Second: _____ Key _____
Capparelli _____ Y _____ Cascio _____ Y _____ Fischer _____ Y _____ Fortunato _____ Y _____ Homaychak _____ Y _____ Key _____
_____ Y _____ Melchionne _____

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PRIORITY ITEMS:

1. Sustainable Jersey Recertification - Due to time constraints, Commissioner Melchionne recommended to Commissioners and Green Team Volunteers to submit in writing any notes for business items that will take more than two (2) minutes to discuss, *prior* to the meeting for all Commissioners to review.
2. Environmental Resource Inventory (ERI) project – Commissioner Capparelli reported that the ERI is complete and has gone to print. Commissioners as well as Town Hall, Wyckoff Library, Eisenhower Middle School, Indian Hills and Ramapo High Schools will receive copies. The ERI has already been uploaded to the Township website. Commissioners Fortunato and Key thanked Commissioner Capparelli for a job well done in coordinating the ERI.
3. Sustainable Jersey 2019 Grant Program – The Environmental Commission is pursuing two (2) SJ grants:
 - a. Commissioner Key gave an update on the **Sustainable Jersey PSE&G \$20,000 grant** opportunity. Ms. Key reported that the grant application would require the Township to participate as part of the Bergen Hub in a Food Waste Program that would include 3 towns: Ridgewood, the fiscal agent who would handle the grant funds, Glen Rock who will write the grant and Wyckoff. Ms. Key mentioned that she has been working on the program since September 2018 and with the Commissioners previous discussion has sent a recent copy of the proposal to Commissioners for review. The pilot program idea was initiated by Jr. Commissioner Nick Rea as part of his 2018 project. As part of the pilot program, 30 households per town will be selected to participate in the program. Wyckoff and Glen Rock will receive 2 - (48 gallon) totes and Ridgewood will receive 4 totes. Ridgewood is applying for the bulk of the \$20,000 grant (\$10,000) and Wyckoff and Glen Rock would receive the balance of \$5,000 each. The \$5,000 grant would pay the \$3,250 fee for the Community Compost Company service which includes pickup of compost material weekly, educational materials and monthly reports. An additional \$875 will be allocated for costs relating to advertising and education. A resolution to participate in the composting program was prepared and sent to Commissioners. Next step -get final approval from Township Committee and if approved determine the drop off location and scheduling logistics. Committeewoman. Rubenstein asked if this was a matching funds grant. Commissioner Key replied no. Committeewoman Rubenstein stated she will discuss this with the Township Committee.
 - b. Commissioner Fortunato discussed the application for the **SJ PSE&G \$2,000 grant**. The grant application details from Jr. Commissioner Jasmine Ho are still in process and Commissioner Fortunato will circulate the final application to Commissioners for approval prior to submittal. Commissioner Fischer said that she is sourcing re-usable bags and will provide costs to Commissioner Fortunato to include in an itemized budget for the grant. A resolution was drafted and submitted to the Township Administrator and Township Committee Liaison Melissa Rubenstein.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Commissioner Melchionne welcomed new members: Melissa Rubenstein, Beth Fischer and Jr. Commissioners.
2. Team Up to Tidy Up- will be April 27, Rain Date: May 4th, volunteers needed. Commissioner Key discussed t-shirt giveaways utilizing previous TUTU contest winner. All were in favor of using Ms. Park's design utilizing "2019 Wyckoff Team Up to Tidy Up" inscribed on shirts. Ms. Key asked Fran, Administrative Assistant, at Town Hall to perform the work to get the t-shirts.

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3. Shred-fest Day – scheduled for April 27- 8:30 am need volunteers
4. Township Zero Waste Program- Commissioner Capparelli reported that the township has implemented a Zero waste program to recycle paper and cardboard as well compost coffee grinds and take home your waste.
5. ANJEC membership- all Commissioners were registered as 2019 ANJEC members. See website for more information
6. FLOW Film Festival- Green Team member JR Frank reported there will be a total of 4 movies on Thursday and Friday evenings in March and April schedule for: March 14, 22, 28 and April 4 which will be hosted at the Oakland Public Library. All other films will be held at the Wyckoff Public Library. Jr. Commissioner Jasmine Ho's project on plastic bags will tie into the March 22nd film. Commissioner Capparelli will coordinate information to be posted on website and social media.
7. Commissioner Key reported that Jr. Commissioners returned their project selection forms. Jr commissioner packets were distributed to all Jr. Commissioners with information about Commissioner responsibilities, projects, meeting dates and basic housekeeping items. Commissioner Key discussed with the students a 24-48 hour email response policy, as a best practice and courtesy to respond to all emails within a 24-48 hr. timeframe.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Dual Days Recycling Weekly Challenge- Commissioner Capparelli reported that 207 tons of recyclables were recycled during the month of December.
2. Recycle Coach App- Commissioner Capparelli reported that 98 new subscribers enlisted in December 2018 for a total of 993 subscriber's year to date since August 2018.
3. Monarch Butterfly Sign- Commissioner Capparelli reported that the town is awaiting final artwork. An order was placed for the sign which will be mounted in early Spring weather permitting by the DPW. Additionally, an aluminum brochure holder will be placed on a separate post for the Monarch Butterfly brochures

PLANNING BOARD UPDATE – Planning Board Liaison Robert Fortunato reported that he met with Mayor Tom Madigan, Township Engineer Mark DiGennaro and Green Team Volunteer JR Frank to discuss some of JR's environmentally sustainable best practices items as voluntary suggestions for residents to consider when applying for building permits.

NEXT MEETING – February 25, 2019 at 7:00pm to be held in the Ladder Back Room, Second Fl. Town Hall.

TASK FORCE ITEMS:

1. COMMUNITY - Partnership and Outreach, Diversity & Equity, Health and Wellness, Food, Arts, Culture & Historic Preservation. Commissioner Key, Commissioner Cascio, Commissioner Homaychak, Commissioner Beth Fischer, John Adams

Green Team Volunteers – see updates below

1. Wyckoff School's Green WEC/WGT Liaison Report – Commissioner Beth Fischer gave the following report on the schools:
 - a. Eisenhower purchased two Zero Waste Art Supply recycling boxes from Terra Cycle
 - b. Sicomac - The Green Ambassadors club made reusable bags from old t-shirts. The Healthy Living Fair is Friday 5/17. Girl Scout Troop will give an educational talk on no plastic straws, bottles and bags. Tent cards will be distributed through school and placed on the tables at lunch as a reminder to students to skip straw usage” The school is making re-usable bags out of old t-shirts. Healthy Living Fair is May 16th.

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- c. Coolidge – already successfully implemented No Straw November
 - d. Lincoln, Sicomac and EMS are collecting used old markers (not crayons) through Crayola Colorcycle Mayor's Wellness Committee (a component of Sustainable Jersey) – website is updated
2. Monarch Butterfly Garden - Commissioner Capparelli reported that the town is awaiting final artwork. An order was placed for the sign which will be mounted in early Spring weather permitting. Additionally, an aluminum brochure holder will be placed on a separate post for the Monarch Butterfly brochures

SJ Bergen HUB Updates

No report given at the Dec meeting so reporting for the November 2018 meeting. The following is reported by Commissioner Key:

Hillsdale hosted, Guest Speakers;

- 1. Leonia's B.A. talked @ shared Sustainable Coordinator
- 2. ANJEC President Ray Cywinski, also works at Suez (40 yrs.) and past mayor of Demarest.
- 3. Eileen, owner of CCC & Hudson Soil Co, Lauren shared the SJ likes to get behind these collaborative initiatives. Chances are good for grant.
- 4. Plastic Bag initiative - encourage municipalities to address at local level.
- 5. Town highlights - Oradell - Lecture on Coyotes March 7th (we have deer problem, they have coyotes)
- 6. Glen Rock - Theme for 2019 - Year of AIR & WATER, interested in collaborating w/ other towns, interns working on storm water projects.
- 7. NO Dec. Meeting
- 8. Next Meeting, Thurs. January 31st, in Leonia

2. BUILDING AND ENERGY - Energy Efficiency, Green House Gas/Municipal Carbon Footprint, Green Design, Innovative Demonstration Projects. *Commissioner Capparelli, Commissioner Robert Fortunato, Commissioner Hoogerheyde, JR Frank, Mark Niederman, Ryan Lewis.* Mark discussed and shared his Clean Energy flyer with several commissioners for discussion and approval.

3. LAND USE AND LOCAL BUSINESS - Land Use & Transportation, Local Economies, Natural Resources, and Animals in the Community. *Commissioner Robert Fortunato, Commissioner Hoogerheyde, Commissioner Melchionne, Ryan Lewis, Dan O'Connell* Jr. Commissioner, Dan O'Connell, is working on Actions #47N, 51N, 52N – No current updates

4. WASTE MANAGEMENT, OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES – Commissioner Melchionne, Commissioner Capparelli, Commissioner Cascio, John Adams, Nick Rea, Jasmine Ho. Nick discussed and shared his composting workshop flyer with all.

5 MEDIA AND PRESS RELATIONS – *Commissioner Homaychak, Commissioner Key.* Commissioner Homaychak reported that Jr Commissioner Nick Rea's Fall Newsletter has been posted on the Environmental Commission webpage

Adjournment

There being no further business a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Denise Capparelli, Commissioner/Secretary
Wyckoff Environmental Commission