

WYCKOFF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
Public Business Meeting Minutes
December 16, 2019

DATE: Monday, December 16, 2019
TIME 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Wyckoff Library, Monroe Room, 200 Woodland Ave., Wyckoff, NJ

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

“The December 16, 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

- **COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Commissioners: Denise Capparelli, Christine Key, Beth Fischer, Celeste Homaychak and Ben Weiner, Planning Board Liaison Kevin Hanly, Township, Chairman Peter Melchionne,
- **STUDENT JR COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Camille Dash- RHS, Dan O’Connell - RHS, Ashley Park, RHS; Nick Rea, Bergen Academy, John Cannizzo, RHS Camille Dash, RHS, Christopher Keary
- **MEMBER(S) ABSENT:** Committeewoman Melissa Rubenstein,
- **GREEN TEAM TASK FORCE VOLUNTEERS PRESENT:** John Adams, JR Frank, Mark Niederman
- **PUBLIC/OTHERS PRESENT:** Thomas J. Madigan, Wyckoff Mayor, Rudy Boonstra, Wyckoff Township Committeeman, Noelle Keary, Jean Park

Motion to approve minutes from the October 21, 2019 with changes

Motion: Hanly Second: Key
Capparelli Y Fischer Y Hanly Y Homaychak Abstain Key Y
Melchionne Y Rubenstein Absent Weiner Y

I. PRIORITY ITEMS:

1. Chairman Melchionne congratulated Commissioner Fischer on her recent appointment to the Township Committee and thanked her for all her efforts in support of the Environmental Commission. Chairman Melchionne also informed Commissioners of the resignation of Commission Key and thanked her for all her years in support of the many projects conducted by the Environmental Commission.
2. Sustainable Jersey 2019 Re-Certification – Chairman Melchionne reported that he and Commissioners Key and Fischer attended the SJ Awards luncheon to accept the 2019 Silver Re-Certification Award and informed Commissioners that Wyckoff, as a member of the SJ Bergen Hub consisting of a group of eight local Bergen municipalities, were all recognized for receiving the Creativity and Innovation Award from Sustainable Jersey.
3. Re-Usable Bag Program- Commissioner Fischer reported that she has spoken with Township Administrator Bob Shannon regarding the continuation and completion of the grant. Grant coordination will be assigned to Commissioner Capparelli. Commissioner Fischer stated that the intention is to show *A Plastic Ocean* movie at the FLOW Film Festival on March 12th. Commissioner Capparelli mentioned that a new 2020 SJ/PSE&G grant is available. If the Township wants to apply for small grant funding again, they

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would have to close out the current 2019 small \$2,000 grant before the 2020 small grant is reviewed by SJ sometime mid-March 2020. Next steps- determine when the grant will be completed.

4. Jr. Commissioners presented their end of year projects as follows:
 - Camille Dash- Solar Energy Panels
 - Ashley Park-
 - Dan O'Connell
 - Nick Rea – Composting Workshop and Go Green Vacation Best Practices
 - John Cannizzo – DIY Recycling Project for Children
 - Chris Keary – Deer Overpopulation

Mayor Tom Madigan and Chairman Melchionne thanked Jr. Commissioners for all their exceptional efforts and talent in creating their sustainable projects. Commissioner Key presented Jr. Commissioners with their certificates of appreciation for serving as 2019 Jr. members of the Commission.

5. The Township Committee Subcommittee -ordinance prohibiting single use plastic bags. No update

II. GRANT OPPORTUNITIES:

1. Sustainable Jersey/Gardinier Environmental Fund Grant for \$10,000. Award notification will be announced sometime in January 2020.
2. NJDEP It Pays to Plug In- The Township is on a list to receive funds. No updates
3. Chairman Melchionne reported that the Township will submit all grants and inquired if there are any ideas for grants at this time, none were suggested. Commissioners will review 2020 project goals for the next meeting.
4. Commissioner Capparelli reported SJ has a new 2020 SJ/PSE&G large and small grant opportunity (4)- \$20,000, (8)- \$10,000 and (20) - \$2,000. Deadline is February 14, 2020. Commissioner Capparelli asked if Commissioners had suggestions for any projects that could be funded through grant monies to inform the Township as soon as possible so the Township can submit a thorough and complete application by the Feb. 14, 2020 deadline .
5. Commissioner Weiner reported that he is tracking the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), a consortium of the NJDEP, NJBPU and NJEDA that has projected \$80 million in funding for environmental issues, focusing on greenhouse gas reductions via improved efficiency, alternative sources of energy, etc. Approved uses for the funds and the grant application process will not be available until April 2020. Commissioner Weiner will track any further developments of this program and apprise the Commission as necessary.

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. Identification of goals and programs for 2020 were discussed. Commissioner Capparelli provided a draft list of possible projects/programs for 2020. Send suggestions to Commissioner Capparelli or bring to next meeting. Commissioners all agreed Earth Day should be a big consideration for 2020. Ms. Capparelli requested suggested events/activities from the Commissioners. Commissioner Weiner mentioned collaborating with schools for Earth day events. Ms. Fischer will investigate as PTO Liaison.
2. FLOW Green Film Series 2020 – film dates are March 5, 12, 20 and 26

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Bergen Hub Updates – Commissioner Key reminded all the Regional Bergen County Styrofoam drive, hosted by Ridgefield Park and Oakland, will be held on December 28th at the Hackensack Yacht Club. Commissioner Key also stated that Ridgewood is having their annual Earth Day and if Wyckoff is interested in participating to contact Ridgewood Environmental Commission.

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2. Green Team Updates:
 - Green Film Festival – movie dates: March 5, 12, 20, 26
3. Wyckoff School’s Green Team Business – Mrs. Fischer mentioned Eisenhower Pollinator garden samples possible use for Earth Day event or at annual Team Up to Tidy Up cleanup day- as handouts to residents or Partners In Pride
4. Recycle Coach App- 1690 users as of Nov.2019

V. PLANNING BOARD UPDATE – Commissioner/Planning Board Liaison Hanly updated the Commission on the following:
Commissioner Hanly reported the board’s approval and recommendations to the 3 inclusionary zone ordinances regarding zoning changes consistent with the Township’s adopted 2018 Third Round Housing Element. Recommendations include accessory structures (sheds) and buffer shrub requirements, lot size reductions, use of underground utility lines, inclusion of green building materials and clarification of refuse/recycling for residential and commercial tenants.

NEXT MEETING – January 27, 2020 at 7:00pm – resume at Town Hall, Second Floor Conference Room- 7:00pm

ADJOURNMENT – a motion was passed and seconded to adjourn the business meeting, all in favor. The business meeting concluded at 7:30pm. Jr. Commissioners presented their projects at 7:35pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Capparelli
Wyckoff Environmental Commissioner/Secretary