

WYCKOFF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

April Public Business Meeting Minutes

DATE: Monday, April 16, 2018
TIME: 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: 2nd Floor Conference Room
Memorial Town Hall, Wyckoff, NJ

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

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by John McCauley, Chairman.

The Open Public Meeting Notice was read by John McCauley:

"The April 16, 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.

I Motion to approve minutes from the March 19, 2018 meeting

Motion: _____ Key _____ Second: _____ Fortunato _____
Fortunato Y Melchionne AB Homaychak AB Capparelli Y
Key Y Hoogerheyde Y Madigan Y McCauley Y

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

- ☐ **SITE TOUR** of Covanta Energy Corporation – Saturday, April 14, 2018
Commissioner Capparelli said the site tour was very educational. This plant burns municipal waste into renewable energy that helps to power homes and recycle metals. The Township has a 2 year contract with this vendor.
- ☐ **GREEN TEAM VOLUNTEERS**
Commissioner Key introduced Wyckoff resident Ryan Lewis as a new Green Team Task Force member who was a junior commissioner in 2011. He recently graduated from Stockton College with a degree in Sustainable Jersey management. The

"Don't treat your recyclables like trash." – RECYCLE WEEKLY

WEC 04/16/2018 Minutes

Page 1 of 6

WYCKOFF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

April Public Business Meeting Minutes

Commissioners welcomed Mr. Lewis.

☐ **RIDGEWOOD EARTH DAY & BOOTH INVITATION**

Green Team Task Force Member John Adams said he will supply a table with 2 chairs and material for the Earth Day event on Sunday, April 22, 2018 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Ridgewood. This event was lead by Robert Fortunato, John Adams and Alex Sullivan.

III New Business

☐ **NJ CLEAN ENERGY PROGRAM – Home Energy Audit Program**

Commissioner Key said this program is on hold. She said Green Team Task Force Member JR Frank will proceed with this project.

☐ **ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE INVENTORY PROJECT**

Commissioner Capparelli said all comments have been incorporated in the ERI and hard copies will be supplied to the Commissioners. She hopes to have this project completed in May. Commissioner Key said a Sustainable Jersey representative and a DEP representative will review the draft ERI once all edits and SJ requirements have been included and they will provide comments for revision before we submit final report to SJ.

☐ **SUSTAINABLE JERSEY – Certification renewal**

The Commissioners said this project is on hold until the ERI project has been completed.

☐ **RECYCLOMETER – Update**

Commissioner Key said the February percentage was 34.39% and March is 34.44%. Commissioner Madigan asked if white goods and vegetative waste and Shred Fest numbers were included in this calculation. Commissioner Capparelli said she will ask Bob Shannon this question.

☐ **FLOW FILM FESTIVAL – March 1, 8, 15, 22, 2018 – Update**

Green Team Task Force Volunteer JR Frank said the films were well attended this years. The Butterfly movie was rescheduled to April 15th and the Girl Scouts participated in the panel discussion, they updated on their Monarch Butterfly Garden and answered questions from the audience. He said next year he will expand and try to reach different audiences. Commissioner Homaychak said the film festival was advertised on social media. JR thanked the Market Basket for donating cookies to the event and it was noted that Pete Wiederhold Film Committeeman thanked the Market Basket on behalf of the committee.

☐ **ARBOR DAY – Saturday, April 28, 2018**

Commissioner Key said the Shade Tree Commission is taking care of the Arbor Day program at Russell Farms. There were questions raised on Wyckoff Mom's FB page asking, "Why Wyckoff was not distributing samplings this year through the DEP NJ Forest Service program?" Mr. Madigan said the Shade Tree Commission did not want to participate with tree saplings this year. He suggested that the schools get involved next year with this sapling program.

"Don't treat your recyclables like trash." – RECYCLE WEEKLY

WEC 04/16/2018 Minutes

Page 2 of 6

WYCKOFF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

April Public Business Meeting Minutes

- ☐ **TUTU** scheduled for Saturday, April 28, 2018 (rain date Saturday, May 5, 2018) – 8:30 a.m. at Town Hall to help set up - Need volunteers!
Commissioner Key said a T-shirt logo contest was not planned for this year. Therefore no \$\$ prizes would be awarded by the Chamber of Commerce as in years past. Junior Members Dan O'Connell and Nick Rea will provide a printed Infographic and composting tri-fold at this event as our educational awareness handouts for the event. Commissioner Key said all events are e-blasted from the schools. Junior Member Dan O'Connell will present to the ReAct Club on 4/18/18 and Junior Member Alex Sullivan will do a 2 minute Drone advertisement on ETV promoting TUTU and the Shredfest inviting students to attend and on how to sign up.
- ☐ **SHREDFEST** – Saturday, April 28, 2018 – 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. – posted hours. Volunteers needed from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (to help clean up after event)
Chairman McCauley said volunteers are needed for these 2 events and passed around a sign-up sheet.
- ☐ **FISHING DERBY**
Alex Sullivan offered to film at the Fishing Derby, Mr. McCauley said he would check with Bob Shannon to fly the Drone at that event. Committeeman Madigan said he will check with Police Chief Murphy regarding a drone being flown at the Fishing Derby.
- ☐ **BUTTERFLY GARDEN**
Signage is still needed at the garden. JR Frank suggested along with the garden sign to install a brochure box so the brochures that the Girl Scouts created can be displayed and available at the garden for all to take. We have many brochures, reminder to distribute at all events.
- ☐ **BERGEN HUB**
Commissioner Key said Wyckoff will host the May Bergen HUB meeting on Thursday, May 10 at 7:15 p.m. at the Library. Green Team Task Force Member John Adams said he is seeing a lot of activity regarding Styrofoam which is either going to be banned or recycled into crown molding and frames. Commissioner Key said that charging stations and making your town EV ready will be discussed at the May meeting. Volunteers are needed in support roles and are welcome to attend.
- ☐ **JUNIOR MEMBER PROJECTS**
Committeeman Madigan said he will check with Police Chief Murphy regarding a drone being flown at the Fishing Derby. He suggested presenting the tri-fold pamphlet and infographic along with the you tube drone presentation to the Township Committee at the May 1 or June 4 Township Committee meeting.

Junior Member Jasmine Ho said her project is improving recycling efforts in stores. Junior Member Allison Sassano will demonstrate recycling at the High School. Junior Member Dan O'Connell will encourage electric recharging stations. Junior Member Nick Rea will design a newsletter. Junior Member Alex Sullivan will provide a PSA or documentary on idling.

Commissioner Key passed around a form for the Commissioner to sign up to be mentors

"Don't treat your recyclables like trash." – RECYCLE WEEKLY

WEC 04/16/2018 Minutes

Page 3 of 6

WYCKOFF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

April Public Business Meeting Minutes

to one of the Junior Members.

Jasmine Ho, Plastics, Mentors; Denise Capparelli, Celeste Homaychak, John Adams.
Daniel O'Connell, E.V. Stations, Mentors; Robert Fortunato, JR Frank, John Adams.
Nick Rea, Newsletter, Mentors; Peter Melchionne, Denise Capparelli, Christine Key.
Allison Sassano, Recycling, Mentors; Denise Capparelli, John Adams.
Alex Sullivan, Idling, Mentors; Celeste Homaychak, John Adams, Beth Fischer.

Commissioner Key passed around a form for the Commissioner to sign up for the WGT Task Forces.

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 Homaychak, 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).

#5 - MEDIA AND PR

Christine Key, Celeste Homaychak

☐ **WYCKOFF SCHOOL'S GREEN WEC/WGT LIAISON REPORT**

Wyckoff School's Green WEC/WGT Liaison Report - Commissioner Key
Beth Fischer, Wyckoff School's Green Liaison to the WEC/WGT, said at Coolidge School there is a Shoprite, Colgate and Terracycle Playground Contest. We are in the running to win a recycled materials playground! She asked everyone to spread the word and vote every day until June 30. She said the lunchroom garbage and reducing layout has been revamped so as to increase recycling awareness. She said they will be working on outdoor receptacles. At the Wellness Fair there was a table with potted

"Don't treat your recyclables like trash." - RECYCLE WEEKLY

WEC 04/16/2018 Minutes

Page 4 of 6

WYCKOFF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

April Public Business Meeting Minutes

herbs. It was discussed how all the herbs were going into our community garden. The concept of "community garden" to build together and share crops with others was introduced along with inviting the students to join. The Green Ambassadors have about 25 students enrolled. The classrooms are going to revisit the recycling pledge during morning meeting. At the first Green Ambassador meeting during Earth Day Week how to prep the garden beds for planting will be discussed and at the second meeting they will be creating wind chimes and other recycled art materials for the garden space. On May 9th is Walk/Bike to School Day and also bring a worm to school day to celebrate the opening of our garden in early May. At Lincoln Elementary School the "Earth Day" event will include a student bikewalk to school day, collecting donations for used gardening tools & supplies to be used for our new school garden, and we ask students to participate in the Lincoln Earth Day Project. In May, we will hold our "Spring Planting" event for our new school garden and also have kids paint rocks so we can decorate the garden with some fun colors. In June, we will hold our "Create a Pot" event where students are asked to bring in clean, used recycled containers and we provide soil, plants and decorating materials to transform their containers into beautiful potted plants. At Sicomac Elementary School the Sicomac Green Ambassadors will begin distributing their Green Scene rocks around town this weekend in honor of Earth Day. We will tweet to Sicomac Green Ambassadors. We had our raffle for "Guess the Weight" for pounds of crayons and markers. We collected 9.74 pounds of markers and 16.85 pounds of crayons. We announced the winners during the morning announcements and students came to the office to collect their prize. We completed our battery recycling. We'll weigh those along with our November collection and do another "Guess the Weight" raffle. The prize is rechargeable AA batteries. April is Paired Shoe Collection. Wearable Collections will pick up the shoes at Sicomac School and distribute. The cow pots and wildflower seeds are being distributed to every student tomorrow in honor of Earth Day and they will take home with them. All teachers and staff also get seed packets. Looking ahead: 5th Annual Healthy Living Fair and Recycled Planter Contest Friday 5/11/18 3:20-4:30. Evite to follow soon. At the Washington Elementary School the Health Barn is coming at the end of the day and we are splitting the school into two groups. For Earth Day week we are doing an upcycling project with the art teacher that uses CD's to make a mural for the school. We are also asking each child to bring in a recycled container and Health Barn is coming on Friday to teach them about planting. They will all plant something in their container to bring home. I also liked the wearing blue or green idea so we have asked the kids to wear those colors on Friday. At the Eisenhower Middle School the pollinator plants in the Community Garden have come back and the 8th grade WEL Bee Buzzers are tending to the beds. The 6th grade Cadets Girl Scout Troop will plant pollinator plants in the Eisenhower courtyard this spring rather than outside the community garden. The Art teacher is also considering doing an outdoor student art installation to address several areas of peeling paint. The 6th grade science students have started vegetable seeds inside and will transplant into the community garden later this spring. The veggies will be harvested over the summer and donated to a food bank. Mrs. Chen has another group of WEL students who are working on a solar power project. EMS will celebrate Earth Day so violas were purchased and transplanted into these compostable cups made out of starch. The Commissioners thanked Beth for her update.

IV Old Business

"Don't treat your recyclables like trash." - RECYCLE WEEKLY

WEC 04/16/2018 Minutes

Page 5 of 6

WYCKOFF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

April Public Business Meeting Minutes

- **MAYOR'S WELLNESS COMMITTEE** (a component of Sustainable Jersey)
Commissioner Madigan said the Mayor's Wellness website is updated every week with useful and timely wellness information for residents.

- **WEC WEBSITE/FACEBOOK/TWITTER**
Nancy Cole continues to post information on the website for the WEC. Commissioner Key reported that the WEC/WGT Best Practices Calendar and the ERI Subcommittee volunteers in front of the Wyckoff tree was recently posted to the WEC/WGT webpage.

- V PLANNING BOARD UPDATE – Robert Fortunato**
Commissioner Fortunato reported that the Jersey Mike's, 300 Godwin Avenue, is currently before the Planning Board seeking approval for a restaurant.

VI GREEN TEAM TASK FORCE UPDATES

1. Green Team Task Force Reports
 - a. Community
 - b. Building and Energy
 - c. Land Use and Local Business
 - d. Waste Management, Operations and Facilities - Commissioner Key reported that the HHHW Collections; 4/15/18 and the next one is 5/12/18 in Mahwah. Check the BCUA website for more details.
 - e. Media and Press Relations - Commissioner Key reported that the Tree Photo was submitted to North Jersey Media but has not been published to date. It is however on the WEC/WGT town webpage.

VII Next meeting – May 21, 2018

At this time Chairman McCauley resigned as Chairman and a member of the Environmental Commission since he recently sold his house and moved out of town. The Commissioner thank Mr. McCauley for his service on the Commission and wished him well.

VIII Adjournment

There being no further business a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan McQuaid, Secretary
Wyckoff Environmental Committee