



Bernards Township Environmental Commission



BERNARDS TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MINUTES – November 11, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Ann Parsekian called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the Owen Conference Room of the Bernards Township Municipal Building, 1 Collyer Lane, Basking Ridge, NJ in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act of 1975.

FLAG SALUTE

All those assembled saluted the flag.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Ann Parsekian, John Crane, John Engdahl, James LaMaire, Mahwish Mustafa, Alice Smyk

Absent:

Joan Harris, Debra DeWitt

Also Present:

Kaitlin Cartoccio, Meeting Secretary

Todd Edelstein, Resident

Mariel Ganes, Ridge High School Student

Sean Smith, Ridge High School Student

Olivia Ondishin, Ridge High School Student

Emma Krikston, Ridge High School Student

Ann Trainor, Resident

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion to approve September 9, 2019 minutes by Alice Smyk second by Mahwish Mustafa. All in favor, motion carried.

REPORTS

Green Team: No Report.

Trex Challenge Update: Debra DeWitt was not present but sent a report to the committee ahead of time. There are currently 8 collection locations. Mahwish Mustafa commented the schools are very excited to participate, consider adding more in the future. Library and the YMCA are currently collecting the most. James LaMaire made a “thermometer” graph to keep track of collections.

Reusable Bag Update: All bags have been distributed around town. Ann Parsekian shared the idea to do a reusable water bottle next.

Tree Committee: Inspected 13 trees near the Basking Ridge Animal Hospital that were in bad shape.



Bernards Township Environmental Commission



OLD BUSINESS

Reexamination Report: Planning Board took action. Report should be available soon.

EC Training: Distribute ANJEC Environmental Commissioners' handbooks: Handbooks distributed to members. Committee is considering discussing a chapter at a time

EC Correspondence: Proposal about a wet area close to Dewey Meadow.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Applications

- i. **BUONO** – ZB-19-016- B4801; L3 – 117 Whitenack Road

Application is incomplete. Defer comments at this time

- ii. **EORIO** – ZB-19-020-B1602; L12 – 157 S Maple Ave

Approve memo for no comments

Motion by John Engdahl, seconded by John Crane. All in favor; motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Emma Krikston asked about the incentive behind the Trex Plastic Bag Challenge. Ann Parsekian explained about the bench, but the end goal is to get people to recycle more. Emma Krikston asked about the bench location and suggested a competition between schools or grades for their own Trex Challenge. Decision was made to discuss more offline to get the schools involved. Todd Edelstein discussed reducing the environmental footprint with the Trex Plastic Bag Challenge and offered assistance to the Committee.

COMMENTS BY MEMBERS

Ann Parsekian discussed the 2020 Budget and supplies for the Trex Plastic Bag Challenge. Other future challenges were brought up including Textile Recycling (Alice Smyk) and Styrofoam Recycling (Ann Parsekian). Mahwish Mustafa brought up food composting and food waste at schools.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 7:58 PM. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Kaitlin Cartoccio, Meeting Secretary



Bernards Township Environmental Commission

TO: Zoning Board Chairperson and Members

FROM: Ann Parsekian, Chairperson
Bernards Township Environmental Commission

DATE: November 15, 2019

RE: Applications review

The Environmental Commission reviewed these applications at their November 11, 2019 meeting and forwards the following comments.

EORIO – ZB-19-020-B1602; L12 - 157 S. Maple Ave - The EC reviewed the application and has no concerns at this time.

BUONO – ZB-19-016-B4801; L3 – 117 Whitenack - The EC continues to defer comments as the application is still incomplete.

Cc: David Schley, Township Planner
Cyndi Kiefer, Secretary; for distribution to BOA members