

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

**P. O. Box 1106    523 Egg Harbor Road  
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**(Approved at January 10, 2019 Meeting)**

**Minutes of December 6, 2019 Meeting**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Vicky Binetti. Also in attendance were Anne Hastings, Leon Lakritz, Jodi Smith, and Ann Culkin. The minutes of our November 1, 2018 meeting were approved as presented. Anne Hastings abstained as she was not present at the meeting.

**Guests**

**Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Ann Culkin reported a balance of \$1,520.62 in our budget. Vicky Binetti suggested we allocate funds to buy supplies and giveaway items for Earth Day 2019 after satisfying any outstanding 2018 expenses. A motion was made by Leon Lakritz, seconded by Anne Hastings, to make the necessary purchases. The vote to approve was unanimous.

**Old Business**

**Workshop Meeting**

There was no workshop meeting in November.

**Sustainable Jersey**

Washington Township has been recertified at the Bronze level in the Sustainable Jersey of an article highlighting our participation and recertification. She also informed the Commission that the Township has initiated an exchange program in which residents may receive a free reusable shopping bag for every 10 single-use plastic shopping bags that are

turned into the Public Works Department. The Green Team Advisory Committee (GTAC) is in the process of developing an arts and creative culture program as one of the actions targeted towards a silver certification. The Tri County Sustainability Alliance (TriCSA) received a \$3,100 grant to purchase educational movies/documentaries on sustainability which will be shared with neighboring communities. Vicky Binetti discussed the various grants that are available through the Sustainable Jersey program and inquired whether the Environmental Commission would be interested in pursuing funding for eligible projects. Applications are due mid-February 2019.

#### Earth Day/Arbor Day 2019

Vicky Binetti announced that we will start planning in January for Earth Day/Arbor Day 2019. Ann Culkin said that the Rotary Club may be interested to participate in one of the activities. Leon Lakritz noted that the NJDEP, Department of Forestry is offering tree seedlings free of charge to municipalities as an incentive to reforest the State after the devastation caused by hurricane Sandy. Vicky Binetti asked members to come up with potential new activities to conduct during our month-long celebration of Earth Day/Arbor Day. In 2019, the Environmental Commission will again plant seeds to grow milkweed plants as we plan to continue the Monarch Rescue project. The County has donated 20 composters to Washington Township, and Vicky suggested we have a presentation on composting and offer the donated composters to interested attendees.

#### Clean Up Day 2019

Chairpersons Anne Hastings and Ann Culkin had no report.

#### Bluebird and Monarch Butterfly Projects

After discussion, the Commission agreed to continue both projects in 2019.

#### Trap, Neuter, Vaccinate, and Release

Anne Hastings had no new report but noted that Councilman Sean Longfellow indicated that the feral cat proposed ordinance will again be taken up in February 2019 after Council reorganization.

#### Support OFF (Off Fossil Fuels) Act

There was no new report.

#### Trail Guide Project

The Rowan interns continue their work on the Poplar trail signs and guide. The students hope to finish the project by the end of the semester.

## **New Business**

### Planning Board

- Big Swing Golf Club, 312 Salina Road, Block 16, Lot 7.02 – Vicky Binetti said she was unable to attend the recent meeting, and she had no new report.

### Zoning Board

- Royal Farms – Vicky Binetti mentioned that this project is scheduled to come before the Zoning Board again on Monday, December 10, 2018.

### Meeting Dates for 2019

Vicky Binetti announced that our reorganization meeting for 2019 will be held on Thursday, January 10<sup>th</sup>. The July meeting will be moved forward one week to July 11<sup>th</sup> because the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday falls on the first Thursday of the month.

## **Committee Reports**

### Open Space

Leon Lakritz reported that the Open Space Advisory Committee has obtained appraisals for the Stoyko and Chew properties. They are also considering the possible purchase of a property on Glassboro-Cross Keys Road.

### Council

There was no report in Sean Longfellow's absence.

### Correspondence

There was no new correspondence.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Submitted by:

*/s/Dorothy Hunter*

Dorothy Hunter, Secretary  
Washington Township Environmental Commission

