

RAMSEY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING – JANUARY 11, 2022

Until further notice, the Environmental Commission meetings will be held via Zoom. The January meeting of the Ramsey Environmental Commission was called to order by Chairman Nerney at 7:35 p.m. Also present were Ms. Boone, Mr. Carey, Ms. Danz, Mr. Kehoe, Ms. Kundriat, Mr. Morris, Mr. Parker, Council Liaison Weber, and Mrs. Dey, Administrative Assistant. Ms. Benfanti, Ms. Hudon, Ms. Kymer, Mr. Ramiza, and Mr. Walsh were absent.

In accordance with the laws of the State of New Jersey, public notice of the meeting was published in *The Record* on Thursday, December 23, 2021 and *The Ridgewood News* on Friday, December 24, 2021 and posted in the Municipal Building.

Ms. Boone, Mr. Carey, and Ms. Danz were sworn in. Mr. Walsh needs to be sworn in.

MINUTES

On motion by Mr. Carey, seconded by Ms. Boone, the minutes of the November 9, 2021 meeting were accepted as received.

CORRESPONDENCE

All minutes will now be found online. Hard copies will not be distributed.

OLD BUSINESS/COMMISSIONER/GREEN TEAM MEMBER REPORTS

Ms. Boone noted that she is putting together the schedule for the Farmers' Market for 2022. The first plastic toy collection for the year will take place around Earth Day in April.

Mr. Carey provided Planning Board updates; there are many new businesses coming to Ramsey. Mr. Morris asked about the liquor license for the new business, Bar Boutique. It had been the license from the Horizon Diner.

Ramsey has attained Silver Certification from Sustainable Jersey, one of the ten municipalities (Glen Rock, Maywood, Oakland, Oradell, Paramus, Ridgely Park, Ridgewood, Rutherford, Wyckoff) in Bergen County.

The meeting with the Shade Tree Commission will be scheduled in 2022.

Susan Danz was welcomed to the Environmental Commission, replacing Michele Taylor. She shared her background with the group.

Ms. Hudon looked into scheduling the exhibit space at the library during the month of April. However, that space will be used by RIFE since April is Autism Awareness Month. March or May are other possibilities. The plan was to tie in the exhibits with Earth Day, the annual borough clean-up, and the third collection for Second Chance Toys. There is a display case at borough hall currently housing items from the borough centennial in 2008. Perhaps that display case could be used for Environmental's April displays.

The pre-holiday plastic toys collection held at the Farmers' Market on Sunday, November 14th, was as successful as the first. Three vehicles, completely filled with all of the donations, were taken to the Fair Lawn Recycling Center. As already noted, the third collection needs to be scheduled at the Farmers' Market.

Mr. Parker called everyone's attention to the new LED version of the pedestrian crosswalk sign by borough hall. There is a need for similar signs throughout the borough. It was suggested that the Environmental Commission generate a prioritized list of those locations to share with the borough. The discussion shifted to electric vehicles and charging stations. There is a Hub committee which deals with electric vehicles/charging stations; they could be consulted for pertinent information. It had been suggested that Ramsey host an electric vehicle event in the spring, perhaps in the parking lot across from borough hall. The various car dealerships could be asked to participate as well as PSE&G and Rockland Electric. The new Lincoln dealership expects that its entire fleet will be electric by 2030.

The Green Business Recognition Program will continue in 2022.

Mr. Weber reported that the governing body reorganized on Monday, January 3rd. There has been a lot of movement within the Police Department due to many resignations. Many ordinances were passed at the end of 2020. Using grant money, there has been a lot of ADA work in the borough. The *Ramsey Journal* may begin publication again. Mrs. Dey asked if it might be possible to put up a Sustainable Jersey sign in the borough. Ms. Boone asked how Ramsey will be sharing information with the residents about the single-use plastics ban beginning in May. Ms. Kundriat noted that paper bags will be banned too. The Hub also has a committee which deals with single-use plastics.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Environmental Commission, Ms. Boone moved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:17 p.m., seconded by Mr. Morris, and passed.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, February 8, 2022 via Zoom

