

# FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP, HUNTERDON COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

*Established April 3, 1970*

202 Sidney Road  
Pittstown, NJ 08867  
Phone 908-735-5215  
Fax 908-735-7598  
<http://www.franklin-twp.org>

Diane Burgess, Chair  
Laney Britten, Vice Chair



## Regular Meeting Agenda: Monday, November 29, 2021; 7:30 PM Via Zoom

### I. Open Public Meeting Statement

*“This meeting has been duly advertised in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, 10:4-6 et seq. The annual schedule of board meetings has been published in the Hunterdon Democrat newspaper. Copies of the notice have been posted in the Township Municipal Building. This is a regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission.”*

### II. Call to Order and Roll Call

Name (Term Expires)	5/24/2021 Regular & Reorg	6/28/2021	7/26/2021	8/30/2021	9/27/2021	10/25/2021	11/29/2021				
Diane Burgess (3 year - 12/31/2021)	√	√	√	√	√	√					
John Bencoter (3 year - 12/31/2023)	√	√	√	√	√	√					
Laney Britten (3 year - 12/31/2023)	√	√	√	√	√	√					
John Thonet (3 year - 12/31/2021) – LUB			√	√	√	√					
Kevin Carroll (3 year - 12/31/2022)			√	√	√	√					
Gail Hoolko (alternate)			√	√							
Christine Faragalla (alternate)					√						

Other attendees: None

### III. Comments from the Public

### IV. Standard Business

1. Approval of minutes of 10/25/2021 Meeting of the Environmental Commission
  -
2. Applications Referred by Land Use Board (None at this time)
3. Report on Land Use Board Activity (John Thonet)
  -
4. Township Committee activities (Diane Burgess)
  - Endorsed Green Amendments resolution
5. Environmental Conferences and Opportunities
  - Third Northwest New Jersey Rivers Conference – did anyone attend?
    - November 9th, 2021: 1:30 pm - 5:00 pm & November 10th, 2021: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
  - NJ League of Municipalities
  - PFAS in Drinking Water Summit – November 30, 2021

### V. Old Business

1. Community Well Testing for 2021 (June 1 thru 8)
  - We received results for 2020; still waiting for 2021 and special testing
2. Sustainable Jersey Certification renewal
  - Application submitted for final review – decision by mid-December 2021
  - Diane will be developing list of annual items to be updated and approved by Township Committee

3. 2021 Goals Discussion and Plan of Action –

- Ink Cartridge recycling –
  - Laney will define a plan for what we need to do
- Logo for Environmental Commission
  - Suggestion to have NH art depart design something
- Environmental Commission event possibly tied to Earth Day 2022
- Single Use Plastic education program (John B)
- Seminars/Workshops via Zoom (Gail H)
  - Should put focus on a Recycling Education seminar for residents
- Waste management and recycling at the township level, possibly in conjunction with Raritan Headwaters (John B)
  - What do we want to cover when we Survey Trash Haulers - need further discussion

**VI. New Business**

- Green Amendments overview (Laney)
- Rain garden and wildflower beds at new municipal building – could possibly get carbon credits
  - John B and Laney to investigate further
- Agrivoltaics

**VII. Grant Opportunities**

a. Community Energy Plan Grant Program

- i. New Jersey Board of Public Utilities has created a Community Energy Plan Grant (CEPG) program for municipalities to develop a community energy plan to meet the goals of the state's Energy Master Plan. New Jersey's Energy Master Plan: Pathway to 2050 (EMP) established that community-level action is necessary to achieve the state's goal of 100% clean energy by 2050.
- ii. Community energy planning is the process by which communities collaboratively select and strategically implement emissions-reducing initiatives that fulfill the EMP goals. Grant recipients will conduct an in-depth analysis of initiatives to include in their Plan, starting with those identified in the Community Energy Plan Workplan Template.
- iii. There are two grant award levels:
  1. All New Jersey municipalities are eligible to apply for a \$10,000 grant
  2. Overburdened Municipalities (see CEPG application for a list) are eligible for a \$25,000 grant
- iv. Grant applications due 3/18/2022

**VIII. Adjournment**

- Next meeting – Monday, January 3, 2022 at 7:30pm via zoom
- Reminder to check in on idea bank
  - [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1XxkJ9l\\_zvCzhhOCDzskLYWGIWQC9r41\\_MLrMsWR3s4Y/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1XxkJ9l_zvCzhhOCDzskLYWGIWQC9r41_MLrMsWR3s4Y/edit?usp=sharing)

**Action Items**

Item #	Action Item	Who's Responsible	Status	Status / Updates
20210628-01	Identify Shoprite contact used by Township	John B	Open	9/27/21 – John B looking at best type of bag 7/26/21 – John T will work with John B on potential contacts
20210628-02	Develop list of webinar ideas to share with team	Gail	Open	7/26/21 – Gail forwarded list of ideas which will be added to the “idea bank”. 7/26/21 – Once a list is developed, links should be added to the Township website’s Env Comm page <a href="#">10/25/21 – should put focus on Recycling Education seminar</a>
20210628-04	Draft survey to Trash Haulers in Township	John	Open	7/26/21 – John B will set up google doc with questions to pursue 9/27/21 – County may be doing a survey of trash haulers
20210628-05	Determine if Community Day is happening this year	Diane	Closed	7/26/21 – No Community Day for 2021; Diane will find out about Trunk or Treat as well as what happened to corn hole games used at past Community Days 9/15/21 – Trunk or Treat is happening; do we want to do anything as part of it? <a href="#">10/26/21 – provided Halloween/ Trick or Treat environmental impact info on website</a>
20210628-08	Obtain results of 2020 and 2021 Well Testing for Township	Diane	Open	7/26/2021 – Christina F will assist with aggregation and/or analysis of data 8/10/2021 – received 2020 results, still waiting for 2021 results. 9/27/2021 – shared results of 2015 thru 2020 with EC; 2020 results are on website
20210726-04	Reach out to larger Township organizations to see if they are aware of the food waste redirection law and if they need any help	Kevin	Open	8/30/2021 - Kevin reached out to Shoprite, Walmart, and Cracker Barrel. He is not getting a good response. John and John will also pursue with contacts re: sponsorships
20210827-01	Ink Cartridge Recycling with PlanetGreen: 1. Laney will confirm with company that we can participate 2. Diane will present to Township Committee for concurrence	Laney / Diane	Open	9/15/2021 – Township Committee supported idea of ink cartridge recycling; need a plan for managing <a href="#">10/25/21 – Laney will develop a plan including for advertising</a>
20210827-02	Look into other ways to recycle batteries	Kevin	Open	<a href="#">10/25/21 – not many places – Staples, Home Depot</a>
20210827-03	Develop flyer to post to get residents willing to help plan Community Day event related to Environment	Laney	Open	

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20210827-04	Put together a list of vendors who don't use plastics for Community Day event	Kevin	Open	
20210827-05	Post info about Prescription Drop Off Info on Facebook pages Ladies of HC; I Love HC, Franklin Twp	Diane	Closed	9/25/21 – Diane posted info and will have it reposted.
20210827-06	Monthly or Bi-Monthly poster contest with school - reach out to school to find out if they'd like to participate and who the contact is for Sustainable Jersey	Laney / Christina	Open	10/25/21 - Laney getting in touch with art teaches at North; Franklin Township School is looking for help for their environmental work this year and is not taking on more
20210827-07	Environmental/Natural Resource Inventory needs to be updated; Diane will request money be budgeted in the near future for this expense	Diane	Open	
20210827-08	Forestry Management Plan – contact DPW Head for status	Diane	Open	
20210927-01	Put links to Halloween safety tips on website	Diane	Closed	10/15/21 – Diane converted referenced links to PDF documents and requested they be put on the website.
20210927-02	Contact DEP to meet with DEP and County re what we need to do to become more resilient regarding flooding since 3 main arteries in town flooded with Hurricane Ida	John T	New	
20210927-03	Sustainable Jersey application for renewal and creation of list of annual items for review by Township Committee	Diane	Open	10/15/21 – application needs to be updated based on comments from Sustainable Jersey review. 11/21/21 – application updated and resubmitted; responses due mid-December
20211025-01	Speak with CFO re including EVs on the vehicle replacement schedule and possibility of adding charging stations at the DPW or new municipal building	John B	New	
20211025-02	talk to Raritan Headwaters to determine plans going forward for PFAS testing	Laney	New	
20210628-03	Forward info on Terracycling	Laney	Closed	6/29/21 – Laney forwarded email with multiple links to info on Terracycling. We will continue to pursue this in future meetings.
20210628-06	Determine our budget and how NJ Clean	Diane	Closed	7/26/21 – Env Comm has \$1000 annual budget. Clean

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	funds are being used			Communities funds could be used for reusable shopping bags if needed; these funds are used for various projects in the Township
20210628-07	Confirm appointees to remaining positions on Env Comm	Diane	Closed	7/26/2021 – Diane will send Citizenship Form to Christina, Gail, and John T and will confirm all can be added as members of Commission as regular or alternate members 9/27/2021 – Diane sent email confirming appointments to the Municipal Clerk
20210726-01	Add John T to Sustainable Jersey website	Diane	Closed	7/27/2021 – Diane added John T to site; John T will need to accept invitation
20210726-02	Can Township Website add capability to notify interested users when there are changes to the website	Diane	Closed	8/1/2021 – cost for auto update notifications is beyond what is budgeted. There is the ability to send blast emails for specific topics.
20210726-03	Set up Google Doc “idea bank”	Laney	Closed	8/1/2021 – Laney created document; this is an ongoing effort