

# FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP, HUNTERDON COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

*Established April 3, 1970*

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Diane Burgess, Chair  
Laney Britten, Vice Chair



## Regular Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, March 29, 2022; 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)	1/31/2022 Regular & Reorg	2/22/2022*	3/29/2022*	4/25/2022	5/23/2022*	6/27/2022	7/25/2022	8/29/2022	9/26/2022	10/31/2022	11/28/2022
Diane Burgess (3 year - 12/31/2022)	√	√	√								
John Benschoter (3 year - 12/31/2023)	√	√	√								
Laney Britten (3 year - 12/31/2023)	√	√									
John Thonet (3 year - 12/31/2024) – LUB	√	√	√								
Kevin Carroll (3 year - 12/31/2024)	√	√	√								
Christine Faragalla (alternate)		√									

Other attendees: Bruce DeRites, Kathleen Farley, Sandra Dagnall, Frank Tota, Ingrid Tagg, Kevin, Joshua Roznowski, Ally Taff, Jane Bowers, Matt Farley

### III. Comments from the Public

- Frank Tota had a question about the NRI
- Matt Farley raised the topic of NoMowMay
- Jan Bowers raised the topic of invasive species and the Wildflower preserve in Washington Crossing
- Bruce DeRites suggested tapping in to the Master Gardeners program for information
- Several members questioned how we could better notify residents of meetings, etc. by putting sign on township land. Someone would need to take the lead on doing this.
- Several residents questioned if signing up for eblasts could be easier; Diane B offered to contact the Municipal Clerk to see what is possible.

### IV. Standard Business

1. Approval of minutes of 11/29/2021 Meeting, 1/31/2022 Reorg Meeting, 1/31/2022 Regular Meeting and 2/22 Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission - tabled as minutes not yet available
2. Applications Referred by Land Use Board (None at this time)
3. Report on Land Use Board Activity (John Thonet)
  - Memorialized a resolution for lot line adjusted
  - Undersized property looking for variances for redevelopment
4. Township Committee activities (Diane Burgess)
  - Cannabis Ordinance canceled

- Resolution passed in Support of the Ability of Municipalities to Adopt Regulations to Protect Public Health, Safety, and Welfare from Threats of Flooding
5. Environmental Conferences and Opportunities
    - Preparing for the Statewide Single-Use Plastic Ban Confirmation sponsored by Sustainable Jersey
      - Mar 23, 2022 – information forwarded to EC members
    - Sustainable Jersey Webinars
      - March 28: Program Updates Webinar
      - April 1: Great Plains Institute's Guide To EV Ordinances Webinar
      - April 6: Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) Application Deadline
      - May 5: New Jersey WasteWise Business Network
      - June 24: New Jersey Sustainability Summit
    - Hunterdon Sustainability Hub
      - April 5 Webinar: Accelerating the Electric Vehicle Transition with Outreach in Your Community
  6. Grant Opportunities
    - ANJEC GRANTS FOR OPEN SPACE STEWARDSHIP PROJECTS – due May 2
      - Possible uses – tent and signage for EC, printing of materials for single-use plastics education
      - John B will pursue and provide recommendation
    - NJDEP Grants for DC Fast Charging Electric Vehicle Stations – due May 13, 2022
      - No interest at this time from Commission

## V. Old/Ongoing Business

1. Community Well Testing for 2022 (Pick up May 9-May 17 with return on Wed 5/18)
  - We will do standard Advertising campaign for 2022 well testing including notifying churches and the local senior group.
2. Sapling Tree Distribution
  - Submitted request for Thursday 4/21 pickup in Morris County – will receive 500 trees so will limit to 5 per resident
  - Distribution will be Saturday 4/23
  - Advertising campaign includes the lawn signs and social media
  - Some residents asked if we could have a major event tied to the Sapling Distribution – would need someone to volunteer to take the lead.
  - Need volunteers to help set up and distribute
3. Ink Cartridge recycling (Laney) – Advertising campaign
4. Single Use Plastic education program (John B) – Advertising / education program
  - John B will curate some information for the website and a plan for how to roll out
  - Ally Taff offered to assist in promoting if needed in creating our own design and bags, possibly with map of Franklin and local businesses and farms. This could be a fundraiser if someone is willing to take the lead.

## VI. New Business

- a. Cleaning up the Capoolong trail
  - Frank Tota offered to do more investigation and contact the county

## VII. Tabled Items

- a. Environmental Commission event possibly tied to Earth Day 2022
- b. Seminars/Workshops via Zoom (Gail H)
  - i. Should put focus on a Recycling Education seminar for residents
- c. Rain garden and wildflower beds at new municipal building – could possibly get carbon credits (Kevin and Laney)
- d. Waste management and recycling at the township level, possibly in conjunction with Raritan Headwaters (John B)
  - i. What do we want to cover when we Survey Trash Haulers - need further discussion

## VIII. **Adjournment**

- Next meeting – Monday 4/25/2022
  - Moved by Laney, Seconded by John B to adjourn, all in favor
- 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)