

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 Minutes: Monday, July 25, 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 & Board	2/22/2022*	3/29/2022*	4/25/2022 5/2/2022	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 Bencotter (3 year - 12/31/2023)	√	√	√	√	√	√	√				
Laney Britten (3 year - 12/31/2023)	√	√		√	√	√	√				
John Thonet (3 year - 12/31/2022) – LUB	√	√	√	√	√	√	√				
Kevin Carroll (3 year - 12/31/2022)	√	√	√	√	√	√	√				
Christine Faragalla (alternate)		√			√						

Other attendees: Sharyn Sawczyak, Luanne, Cheryl Anderson

III. Comments from the Public

None

IV. Standard Business

1. Approval of minutes of 1/31/2022 Reorg Meeting, 1/31/2022 Regular Meeting, 2/22 Regular Meeting, 3/29/2022 Regular Meeting, 5/2/2022 Regular Meeting, 5/23/2022 Regular Meeting, 6/27/2022 Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission
 - Moved by John B, Seconded by Laney, all in favor
2. Applications Referred by Land Use Board (None at this time)
 - John T requested that all applications be forwarded to Environmental Commission in the future
3. Report on Land Use Board Activity (John Thonet)
 - Large garage on Upper Kingtown property presented to LUB
4. Township Committee activities (Diane Burgess)
 - Key items at this time are new Municipal Building and resolution creating Green Teams as part of Environmental Commission
5. Environmental Conferences and Opportunities
 - None
6. Grant Opportunities
 - DriveGreen@nj.dep.gov
 - https://www.nj.gov/dep/drivegreen/plugin.html?utm_campaign=20220722digest_b&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery
 - Diane will discuss with CFO to determine next steps as well as potential for future electric vehicles as equipment is replaced

V. Old/Ongoing Business

1. Community Well Testing for 2022
 - 59 residents participated – waiting 2020 and 2021 overall results from Raritan Headwaters
 - Laney will contact Raritan Headwaters
2. Ink Cartridge recycling (Laney and John B) –
 - No need for 2nd location at this time
 - Diane will create a poster explaining how program works
3. Green Team for Capoolong Trail Maintenance (Elizabeth B) –
 - Township Committee resolution created Green Team subcommittee to Env Comm
 - Elizabeth will get in touch with new Superintendent when he returns from vacation
 - Township Committee has been in touch with County Commissioners re ownership of Trail
4. Presentation on Invasive Species (Kevin C)
 - To be done at September meeting
 - Topics to include how to create an easy meadow, wildflower gardens, and removal of invasive species

VI. New Business

1. Rogers Pond
 - Diane will locate information available and add into Idea Bank
 - Much of the historical information was misplaced several years ago and could not be located. Engineering firm that did study in early-2000s has gone out of business and reports cannot be located.
 - Princeton Hydro did a study in 2018-2019 and the pond has a lot of duckweed which is not harmful. Pond cannot be restored because the Capoolong Creek base has eroded over the years so it is significantly below the intake pipes. The Capoolong is a C-1 stream so needs DEP approvals to do any work associated with the Pond.

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 8/29/2022
- Reminder to check in on idea bank
 - https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1XxkJ9l_zvCzhOCDzskLYWGIWQC9r41_MLrMsWR3s4Y/edit?usp=sharing