

# FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP, HUNTERDON COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

*Established April 3, 1970*

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Diane Burgess, Chair  
Laney Britten, Vice Chair



## Regular Meeting Minutes: Monday, January 30, 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)	1/16/2023 Special & Reorg	1/30/2023	2/27/2023	3/27/2023	4/24/2023	5/22/2023*	6/26/2023	7/31/2023	8/28/2023	9/25/2023	10/30/2023	11/27/2023
Diane Burgess (3 year - 12/31/2025)	√	√										
John Benscoter (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: Sharon Sawczak, Bruce DeRites, Cheryl Anderson

### III. Applications Referred by Land Use Board

1. Solar Farm on Croton Rd – EC report sent to LUB & applicant; hearing delayed until 2/25/2023
  - There was general discussion of process including who brings in experts, etc.

### IV. Standard Business

1. Approval of minutes of 8/29/2022, 9/26/2022, 10/31/2022, 11/28/2022 Regular Meeting and 1/16/2023 Reorg and Special Meeting of the Environmental Commission – to be tabled until minutes available for review
2. Report on Land Use Board Activity (John Thonet) – Solar Farm application
3. Township Committee activities – No Report

### V. Old Business

1. Tree Recovery Campaign Distribution – application filed, pickup 4/20, distribution 4/22/2023
  - Adveristing will be same as prior years
  - Laney will check with Raritan Headwaters if can do well testing at same time
  - John B will check if can use new municipal building if water will be available
2. Sustainable Jersey grant application
  - Applying for \$20,000 grant for ERI update. Diane to obtain quote from Township planner on costs to use
  - Applying for \$2,000 grant for accessories needed for events such as tree giveaway. This includes tent and signs
  - Laney will contact Christine Burke for EIN and to schedule Resolution
  - Laney will forward template for Resolution for Commsioner input

## **VI. Information on Conferences and Grants**

### **1. Environmental Conferences and Opportunities**

- Sustainable Hunterdon Municipal Hub Meeting - Wed. January 18, 5-7pm, Stangl Hall, 50 Stangl Rd, Flemington
- Electric Vehicles in New Jersey - Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup> 7:00PM, ANJEC Virtual Roundtable (Email [info@anjec.org](mailto:info@anjec.org) to register)
  - Attended by John B and Laney – good info
  - Diane suggested John B to contact Cam re: list of Township
  - vehicles and replacement plan
  - There are EV Grants that should be investigated for both new Municipal Building and DPW (in the future)
- Dams & Dam Removals in NJ – Wednesday, Feb 1<sup>st</sup> 7:00pm, North Country Branch Library ([hclibrary.libcal.com](http://hclibrary.libcal.com) to register)
  - John T will try to attend
- Dam Removal Project Manager Training course led by American Rivers, March 22 & 23, 2023

### **3. Grant Opportunities**

- Sustainable Jersey – due February 10, 2023:
  - Laney will ensure all EC members have proper access

## **VII. Comments from the Public**

- Bruce DeRites raised the issue of Capoolong Creek issues and that there is a new district manager for DEP. EC replied someone is needed to lead this effort at this time.
- Bruce DeRites reported on EDIT group meeting with Mayor Koury, Deputy Mayor Homulak, and Eric Peterson discussing Peterson's suggestion of housing projected for affordable housing landspace. Diane advised Bruce of the sewer and water issues that have caused deals to fall through in the past (Bruce was not aware of this). Bruce stated availability of new technology package systems for sewers and advised of Regional Wastewater Management.

## **VIII. Adjournment**

- Moved by John B, seconded by Laney, all in favor at 9:05pm.
- Next meeting – Monday 2/27/2023
- Reminder to check in on idea bank
  - [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1XxkJ9l\\_zvCzhOCDzskLYWGIWQC9r41\\_MLrMsWR3s4Y/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1XxkJ9l_zvCzhOCDzskLYWGIWQC9r41_MLrMsWR3s4Y/edit?usp=sharing)