

Cranford Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes
Monday April 4, 2011
Cranford Township Community Center
Cranford, NJ 07016

In attendance: A. Pinto, M. Sudiak, W. King, J. Hrebin, N. Dittmar, L. Feder, D. Shebitz, D. Ehrenbeck, D. DesRochers, S. Jandoli, Frank Klapinski (guest)

1. Minutes of April 4, 2011 meeting accepted.
2. Conservation Center subdivision: Mayor Aschenbach discussing with Union County about potential purchase of property. Township has decided not to move forward with subdivision. Use of site for recycling can be noted for Green Acres ROSI as a pre-existing use. There is potential consideration of sale of portion of Conservation Center property along Cranford Avenue as 8 building lots.
3. Nothing new to report on 4 acres of Verizon property adjacent to Conservation Center.
4. Township is discussing with Union County funding from the Open Space Trust for park development at Solomon Schechter. A committee has been formed to review alternative uses for the park Steve Jandoli asked to be appointed to the Committee.
5. Township Committee created a Governmental Energy Aggregation along with a Conservation Advisory Board and a Conservation Utility to promote energy conservation in town and to seek reduced energy rates. Nelson met with Aschenbach concerning the Utility and the Board. Nelson agreed to be a member of the Board. Ana Pinto volunteered to be a member of the Board. Township's energy bill is \$300,000 a year, \$600,000 a year with street lights. Utility would also be involved in the collection of leaves, maintenance of conservation center, recycling in addition to other energy cost reductions.
6. Nelson met with Warren Hehl to discuss town wide composting. Alternatives to hauling compost to Delaware were discussed. Chatham obtained grant for onsite composting. Ana and Daniela will follow up. Potential for Cranford schools for food composting. Mary will follow up with school system on composting issues. Daniela discussed potential opportunity at Kean for composting information and technology.
7. Commissioner O'Malley has been appointed to the County Solid Waste Committee. If Cranford does town wide composting and sends compost to Delaware, the County's solid waste plan would need to be amended.
8. The Township is investigating to have Union County pick up garbage in town.
9. Possible Green Fair in the fall at Union County College or Community Center. Ana

will organize will Lynda, Daniela will assist. A possible tag on to Peddle, Paddle, Fun event will be considered.

10. Energy efficiency grants status unknown.

11. Rahway River Greenway Report- Steve will write wildlife habitat section, Lynda will write historic section.

12. Stickers for Green Businesses have arrived. Dan Murphy, CHS Junior, has volunteered to be chair of the Green Team. There was a discussion of Green Team activities and future. Need to work on recertification in three years. Anti-idling signs posted at train station and some schools. The Sustainable Jersey banner is up at Community Center. The Community Garden at Walnut Avenue School is starting up again. Dave DesRochers reported that he had attended the Green Team meeting on April 28. Attendance was light.

13. Kean Earth Day Fair was successful event. Nelson gave Ana Energy Star Pledges from students.

14. Nelson to discuss invasive species with Kathy Murray.

15. Rain Barrel program on 6/2 at the Community Center.

16. Union County Bio Blitz at Passaic River Park in Berkeley Heights, New Providence and Summit starting at 5pm on 6/10 and ending at 5pm on 6/11.

17. Next meeting on Monday June 6, 2011 at 7:30pm at the Community Center.