

# Cranford Environmental Commission

Meeting Minutes  
Monday, January 9, 2012  
Cranford Township Community Center  
220 Walnut Avenue  
Cranford New Jersey 07016

Attendees: Nelson Dittmar, Steve Jandoli, Lynda Feder, Ron Margolis, John Hrebin, Jim Murphy, Frank Klapinski, Daniela Shebitz, Mark Smith, Carol Berns, Kathy Lewis, Ana Pinto, Dave DesRochers

The meeting was called to order at 7:35pm

1. The minutes of December 5 were approved
2. Planning Board & Board of Adjustment Reviews  
A letter was sent on to the DEP objecting to the Birchwood Development. Nelson thanked everyone for contributions. John Hrebin reported that numerous letters were sent by residents.

Current applications:

- a. Nelson reviewed current applications including one to raise a home in the flood zone.
  - b. Nelson reviewed resolutions.
3. Old business
    - a. Stormwater Education ideas –
      - Dave has put together a sheet of suggested ways to address Storm water Management and Nelson will send around for general comment.
      - Tree Planting and Education Program. A committee was formed to come up with a program. Dave passed around a signup sheet and will contact those who express interest in participating on a committee.
      - Lynda will contact Kathy Murray about a possible Rain Barrel program.
      - Nelson spoke to Health Department about sharing a page in the DMC Magazine
      - Possible program on Rain Gardens.
    - b. Former mayor Aschenbach is working on scheduling a meeting with others in watershed to discuss a model ordinance that might be adopted by all.
    - c. Nelson and Steve met with the Township Committee in December to discuss the results of EC initiatives in 2011.
    - d. Goals –
      - Nelson conducted a discussion of goals that were sent by email. Members were supportive of the list. Mark Smith encouraged the commission to support adding the Solomon Schechter property on the ROSI. This may not happen unless the TC applies for Green Acres funding. John Hrebin asked if we could add opposition to Birchwood to list of goals.
      - Green Team projects will continue. Ana will contact Jen Ebert about another Green Fair. The possibility of having a smaller event in conjunction with Pedal Paddle event. Mark Smith will contact Martha Garcia for details.

- e. Annual report was distributed by Nelson
  - f. The Library Solar Panels have been online since Nov. Community Center also has solar panels. Carports will be added
  - g. Cloud Institute – Nelson, Dave & Mary Sudiak attended. The program will span 3 years and will train teachers to incorporate sustainability into curriculum.
  - h. Environmental Education Committee will meet on Jan 26.
  - i. Energy Goals for Municipal fleet – Ana will address
  - j. Sustainable jersey
    - Green Business program will continue. Still waiting for stickers
    - New Green Team Leader needed
  - k. Rahway River Greenway report is on hold. Don feels there is no interest and therefore no point,
  - l. Clean Power Choice/Change a light, Ana is compiling the pledges that were collected on Earth Day.
  - m. My Green Cranford – Dave will add info on Solar Panels
4. New Business
- Green Roof Program – Kathy Lewis is investigating an opportunity to hold a program in conjunction with East Brunswick EC
  - Fanwood green Team -Mary & Nelson will meet with them
  - Kathy Lewis suggested that the EC consider the Union County Adopt a Park Program for one of the parks within the township.
  - Steve reported that this year's Bio Blitz will be in Rahway River Park.
  - Nelson announced the ANJEC Commissioners Course schedule.

Submitted by Lynda Feder