

WYCKOFF ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
Public Business Meeting Minutes
November 20, 2023

Date: Monday, November 20, 2023
Time: 7:00 PM
Location: Wyckoff Town Hall, Ladderback Room, 340 Franklin Ave. Wyckoff, NJ 07481

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Chairwoman Fischer. Open Public Meeting Notice was read by Secretary Capparelli

Roll Call:

Commissioners Present: Linda Ammerman, Danyel Competiello, Beth Fischer, Lisa Koeber, Roger Lane, Ben Weiner
Jr. Commissioners Present: Eve N, Alex C, Gabriella B, A. Park
Others Present: Denise Capparelli, Ron Javier, John Swanson

Motion to approve minutes from the October 16, 2023, meeting.

Motion: Lane Second: Ammerman
Ammerman: Y Board Liaison Bogdansky: Absent Competiello: Y Fischer: Y Koeber: Y
Lane: Y Weiner: Y

Priority Review Items:

- 2024 Spring Shredfest – May 4, 2024. Awaiting confirmation from the BCUA for free shred truck. Styrofoam will continue to be collected. Mr. Melchionne reported the Township is investigating a collection bin for the Styrofoam to be an ongoing collection at the Recycling Center. Ms. Capparelli will follow up with the Clerk regarding posting of information about paper shredding now available at the Recycling Center.
- Certified Wildlife Habitat – Ms. Ammerman will apply for Russell Farms to be certified as a Garden for Wildlife Habitat with the National Wildlife Federation. Mrs. Ammerman will research a sign from the NWF to be displayed at the park.
- Jr. Commissioners 2024 – the Commission has collected about 8 applications from interested students. Mrs. Fischer, Mr. Weiner and Mrs. Competiello will interview candidates on December 14. Three new Jr. Commissioners will be selected and invited to the December meeting for introductions.

Grant Programs:

- Sustainable Jersey/PSE&G small grant for Russell Farms Community Park signage. – no updates.

Planning Board

- No updates

New Business

- ANJR(Association of NJ recyclers) Symposium attended by Denise Capparelli. Ms. Capparelli reported that the Symposium was well attended. Awards were presented to public, private and institutions from the NJDEP for various recycling and waste reduction achievements. Additionally, various speakers presented on recycling and litter reduction.
- Pumpkin Composting- Mrs. Fischer suggested the Township have an annual townwide pumpkin composting event. Mrs. Fischer will reach out to Abma's Farm to see if there is any interest in collaborating on this program. Mrs. Ammerman collected on her own many pumpkins through advertising on Wyckoff Moms and Wyckoffians to collect pumpkins for deer food.
- Mr. Ho, Green Team volunteer, collected 4 boxes (about 800 tennis balls) of used tennis balls and recycled them through RecycleBalls. Ms. Capparelli received invoice from Mr., Ho and has sent Mr. Ho a voucher for signature.

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Other Business:

- Jr. Commissioner project updates
 - (a) Fashion Show (Allie, Gabrielle and Alex) Alex reported that will be meeting at the Economy Shop to finalize the video.
 - (b) Mrs. Fischer will follow up with Stephen and Greg to confirm the QR code on the flyer was corrected and will go live. He is awaiting to hear from Mr. Melchionne if the Anti-Idling flyer is approved by the Township
 - (c) Eve stated the website is complete. There will be a flyer with links for schools to be directed to the WEC email to order supplies for their events. Eve will need WEC logo to finalize.
- *SJ HUB*- Mr. Weiner reported that the HUB shared a presentation on composting. Individuals can subscribe to a farm waste compost program that is collected by the farm. The food waste is used to feed the farm animals. All waste food is collected, including meat and fish. Ridgefield Park is paying to use this service to compost their food waste collected at their recycling center.
- Wyckoff K-8 Schools/PTO – no reports
- RIH Schools Report- no reports
- WEC Facebook Page –pending approval
- Recycle Coach – 24 new subscribers for April 2023, YTD since 2018 = 3,866
- Bergen County Utilities Authority – no more collections for 2023

Next meeting – December 18, 2023 – 7:00 pm Wyckoff Public Library, Shotmeyer Meeting room. Mrs. Fischer will put together a list of 2023 WEC accomplishments and has asked Commissioners input for 2024 goals. Commissioners to contact library and coordinate presentations for Dec. 18 meeting.

Adjournment – There being no further business, a motion to adjourn by Commissioner Lane and seconded by Commissioner Competiello was unanimously passed. The meeting concluded at 7:48pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Capparelli
Wyckoff Environmental Commission Secretary