MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL JOINT MEETING OF THE NJ FISH & GAME COUNCIL AND NJ ENDANGERED & NONGAME SPECIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Central Region Office Robbinsville, New Jersey October 17, 2018

The regular meeting of the Fish and Game Council was held on the above date.

The meeting was called to order at 10:17 a.m. by acting chairman Frank Virgilio.

The flag salute and the Pledge of Allegiance were completed.

Acting chairman Virgilio read aloud the following notice: In accordance with P.L. 1975, c. 231 Notice of this meeting was filed with and posted at the Office of the Secretary of State on October 3,2018 and delivered to the designated newspapers for the Division, the Newark Star Ledger and the Atlantic City Press; published on October 11, 2018.

Roll call was taken in attendance:

F & G	ENSAC
Councilman Phil Brodhecker	Chairman Rick Lathrop, Ph.D.
Councilman Joe DeMartino	Committee member Joanna Burger, Ph.D.
Councilman Jim DeStephano	Committee member James Applegate, Ph.D.
Councilman Agust Gudmundsson	Committee member Howard Reinert, Ph.D.
Councilman Dr. Rick Lathrop	Committee member Erica Miller, DVM
Councilman Jeff Link (absent)	Committee member David Mizrahi, Ph.D.
Councilman Jeff Link (absent) Councilman Bob Pollock	Committee member David Mizrahi, Ph.D. Committee member Barbara Brummer, Ph.D.
Councilman Bob Pollock	Committee member Barbara Brummer, Ph.D.
Councilman Bob Pollock Councilman Loren Robinson	Committee member Barbara Brummer, Ph.D. Committee member Jane Morton-Galetto

Division employees included: L. Herrighty, P. Nelson, D. Golden, J. Heilferty, M. Monteschio, K. Clark, A. Ivany, L. Clark, J. Sloan, T. McBride, A. Burnett, J. Hearon, S. Petzinger, P. Woerner, and D. Bajek

There were numerous members of the public in attendance.

Correction on the date in the Agenda for the October 17 meeting, there was an error on the date the newspaper add was published. The correct date is October 11, 2018. Also, the correct date for the Secretary of State is October 3, 2018.

Acting Chairman Virgilio asked if there were any corrections or additions to the July minutes.

A motion was made by Councilman Gudmundsson to approve the July 10, 2018 minutes, seconded by Councilman DeStephano. Vote taken, one- abstention; non-opposed, motion carried.

Acting Chairman Virgilio asked if there were any corrections or additions to the September minutes.

A motion was made by Councilman DeStephano to approve the September 11 minutes, seconded by Gudmundsson. Vote taken, all were in favor; non-opposed, motion carried.

Acting Chairman Frank Virgilio started with how ENSAC is the canary in the coal mine of the advisory panel so to speak. They make recommendations on the status of listing changes of wildlife that may include changes to the lists of endangered and nongame wildlife. The ENSAC was created in 1974 and are the go-to committee for us and the Division of Fish and Wildlife and especially the Fish and Game Council and he is really glad they could be here today. He spoke about an experience he had this past weekend, he got a firsthand look at the face of freedom. He was up at the bear check station at Whittingham Wildlife Management Area. He was able to see a bunch of people who passionately express their love of wildlife. Sometimes those beliefs run counter to science that we profess. He enjoyed seeing that we here at Fish and Wildlife believe in open policy where everyone gets to speak and equally express their opinions about wildlife. He heard a lot coming out of the protest and was able to take some notes, and it was important for him to see that process.

Chairman Rick Lathrop of ENSAC, spoke about the status review of species in NJ and the process to list those species for which the scientific community thinks are endangered, threatened, or special concern. So today is to discuss and review some of the game species considered in the last status review.

Director Larry Herrighty started his comments by introducing new employee Danielle Bajek, she is the new secretary for the Fish and Game Council. Director Herrighty was asked by Acting Chairman Virgilio to talk about the bears. We had the bear hunt last week. There were 140 bears taken last week, archery for all 6 days and muzzleloader for the last 3 days. Our target is 20% of the bears, if we hit 30 % of the tagged bears then we will close the season early. We are at 9.2% of bears tagged this year. With state lands closed to hunting, where historically 40% of the harvested bear are taken, we are not likely to reach that the percentage required to close the hunt early. The Commissioner issued an administrative order at the request of the Governor to close all DEP administered lands. The harvest report data showed 40% of bears came in from DEP lands, so the harvest is down around 60%. Because of that Administrative order the department received a notice of intent to sue from the Safari Club International, US Sportsman Alliance

Foundation and NJ Outdoor Alliance. As part of that process these organizations sent a letter to the Commissioner on Friday asking her to revoke her administrative order and if not to allow for an expedited hearing on this matter before the December 3rd hunt, she is expected to respond to that request today. Last year's total harvest was 409 bears, this year we are at 140 to date.

As far as today, we are in crossroads about several species council has jurisdiction over. There were 185 bird species evaluated through the Delphi process, 79 were water birds and 106 land birds.

Assistant Director Dave Golden, started with the setup for today is to go over 5 species for which the status review suggested some kind of elevated listing for Game species. Kathy Clark will give a presentation on how the Delphi status assessment works and cover marsh birds, and Andrew Burnett will discuss upland game species. After the presentation of each species is complete we will have open discussion. We will not ask for a vote today, we are just presenting and discussing the information. Please hold all questions until the end.

Director Herrighty introduced Mary Monteschio. She is the Division's attorney and internally she has been helping staff work through this process of reviewing the various statutes involved with these species.

Acting Chairman Frank Virgilio read the public comment statement. Public comment is limited to 3 min. per person and 15 min. total time.

Chairman Virgilio asked about any Hot Issues.

Chairman Dr. Rick Lathrop stated that the past two days D. Mizrahi, J. Galetto, and he have been engaged in aquaculture working group as it relates to migrating shorebirds, reviewing the science and the conservation measures, and will be engaged in this process for the coming years.

Committee member Jane Morton-Galetto (ENSAC) mentioned yesterday the aquaculture community asked for some modification to the conservation measures established to minimize harm to shorebirds. We were able to agree that some of those modifications should be made. Strides being made and for each perspective on the issue. She talked about the Holly Farm in Millville, which many of us have worked long and hard to see protected, and the stars are lined up that it might happen. Keep it on the radar because there may be a point when they need help from us. It is possible the company could consider a solar corporation for the site as opposed to full protection of the site. They made it pretty clear at Green Acres that the priority would be protection and for once only we actually have the dollars and the desire. Unless politics gets in the way, it's moving in the right direction.

Kathy Clark, Supervising Zoologist in the Endangered and Nongame Species Program (ENSP), gave a presentation about the status review of birds. ENSP has conducted status assessments of wildlife since 1974. Starting in the 1990s we adopted a formal method of assessing status that uses the Delphi Technique. The first bird review covered all 283 specie birds native to NJ. The bird review was done again in 2005-2006, covering 97 species. Each review covered both game

and nongame. The current status review was completed in early 2018 and covered 185 birds. The birds chosen for this review were those listed with endangered, threatened, or special concern status, or on the NJ Wildlife Action Plan's SGCN list. SGCN are species significant for a number of reasons: economical, ecological, or regional rarity.

The Delphi Technique is used to bring expert opinions to agreement by sharing information in an iterative and anonymous process. These experts involved in the review include individuals from within and outside the Division, to review and share opinions and data through a process administered by the Division.

Reviewers consider data on population, trends productivity, survival and mortality factors, habitat requirements, and threats to both population and habitat. Consensus is defined as agreement of 85% of the reviewers. If consensus is not reached after four rounds, the results are used for internal review and decision. All results for nongame are reviewed by ENSAC, which then makes recommendations to DEP Commissioner. Action to amend the lists of Endangered Species and Nongame Wildlife is made by the DEP. Information provided to reviewers includes Breeding Bird Survey, Christmas Bird Count, and other internal information that the division may have that may not be readily available to the reviewers. We reviewed 185 species total, 26 of those were Game species. At their April meeting, ENSAC reviewed the results for 159 Nongame birds that were part of the assessment. At their September meeting they also reviewed and accepted the results of 21 Game species for which there was consensus for Stable or there was no consensus for status change.

Today five species will be discussed: King Rail, Ruffed Grouse, Northern Bobwhite Quail, Common Gallinule and Clapper Rail.

Kathy Clark reported on the King Rail: there was no consensus for breeding season status, but a majority vote for Endangered; there was consensus for non-breeding season status of Unknown/Undetermined. Kathy presented information on natural history and population. The King Rail is closely related to the Clapper Rail; King Rail is found in freshwater marshes, whereas the Clapper Rail is in saltwater marshes. Both use brackish water marshes. Wetland loss is the main cause for population declines and the main limiting factor. The population level of King Rail is unknown. The King Rail is listed as Endangered in PA, RI, and CT; and Threatened in NY, MD, and MA. It is of high concern in USFWS Region 5. It is also classified as a bird of management concern and a game bird below the desired condition by the US Fish and Wildlife Service and listed as federally Endangered in Canada. E-bird documents 48 locations, of which 65% had a sighting in one year; just five sites had sightings of King Rail in three or more years. Hunting mortality likely has very little influence on King Rail populations based on available harvest data. New Jersey has had a closed King Rail hunting season since 2002.

Policy options are:

1. No action: status unchanged, remains on the game list with a closed season.

2. Add to the Endangered list. Documented habitat would provide for habitat protections through DEP land use regulations. No effect on hunting since the season is already closed.

The Division recommendation is to list as Endangered.

There are two things that happen when a listed (E or T) species is known to occupy a wetland that is the subject of a DEP permit:

- 1. The wetland buffer gets increased from 50 to 150 feet.
- 2. Modifying that wetland, such as by disturbing or filling, becomes increasingly complicated; generally, degradation of such wetlands is less likely to be permitted.

Acting Director Golden explained the recommendation to list as endangered would remove it from the Game list where it currently sits and move it to the endangered list.

A question was asked why is the King Rail listed as Threatened in some states and Endangered in others?

Kathy replied it depends on how each state interprets the definitions, as well as different assessment processes in different states.

Councilman DeStephano questioned what would happen if you accidentally kill a King Rail?

Director Herrighty answered officer in the field would use discretion, recognizing the similarity of appearance of King Rail and Clapper Rail. That is a consideration as opposed to someone purposely destroying the habitat.

Councilman Gudmundsson asked what the consequences would be?

Kathy replied that you shot something with a closed season, it would be the same as if hunting game out of season. Discretion would be used again.

Acting Chairman Virgilio stated that if you looked at that with a law enforcement prospective, what it comes down to is the closed season of King Rail and you're issued a summons and it's a court payable fine. It depends on circumstances, if it was a mistake of identity the CO would be able to figure that out and go with the minimum fine, but the charge would still be there as a teaching tool. Threatened and Endangered elevate the price point of a fine, but still within reason.

Andrew Burnett, Principal Biologist Upland Game, presented on the Ruffed Grouse. The life cycle of the Ruffed Grouse starts with spring courtship, in April they build their nests, a week later they lay eggs, 1 every 1 1/2 days, 12 in total. The eggs will have a 23-24-day incubation period. Hatches in late May early June, the chicks begin to fly at two weeks. They are pushed out of the nest by 8-10 weeks. In September adult plumage, in the Fall the family breaks up and their diet changes over to fruit and in winter snow roost in evergreens and switch to a bug diet due to snow. Winter brings a high predation rate. A variety of coverage is needed depending on the time of year. Open land would be summer and spring, dusty would be spring and fall and mixed woods is all year. The threats include predation and West Nile Virus. The early 90's showed a lower average, fairly low in 2005 and DFW reduced the season from 3 birds a day to 2 birds a

day; we split the zone and opened the season later in the south. There were almost 700 E-bird sightings reported, with 90% in the northern counties. Less than half have been reported since 2011 in five northern counties. Hunter harvest survey every other year shows the decline in the number of hunters and fewer hunters on landscape. Last year harvest report showed 130 Grouse. They did a controlled study on seven sites, 3 treatment sites and 4 controls. They either maintained hunting or treatment sites where they closed hunting. concluded in autumn mortality average of 12%.

The Delphi status review had consensus that Ruffed Grouse should be considered Threatened.

Policy Options are:

1. No action, left unchanged and remain on the Game list. Hunting season of 35-60 days with a daily bag of 2 birds.

2. Modify zone boundary and remain on the Game list.

3. Close hunting state-wide and remain unchanged.

4. Add the Ruffed Grouse to the Threatened list, which would result in a closed season. Listing as threatened would allow for some regulatory protection of habitat under DEP land use regulations in the Highlands Region.

Councilman Gudmundsson questioned if the primary threat is the loss of habitat, and how does relisting or changing the species improve getting that additional habitat if the goal is to increase the population and the presence of the birds.

Assistant Director Dave Golden replied that none of these options prevent us from doing habitat management and none of the options would necessarily make it any easier. If it were listed as a Threatened species, you may be able to make a greater argument if competing for funding. From a Division perspective we are committed to managing for this species regardless of which option we move forward with.

Councilman DeMartino talked about how it was a lack of ability of NJ to manage forests vs the State of PA where they actively cut thousands of acres of forests to manage land for birds.

Assistant Director Golden mentioned that the Division is committed to moving towards actively manage portions of our forest on Wildlife Management areas for this species. We are working hard to try to put appropriate management on the ground for this species and regardless of which option moves forward, we're going to continue with as much motivation as we do now. It's not going to change our management objectives.

Committee member DeVito asked which location would get protection in Land Management?

Assistant Director Dave Golden replied that, if listed as threatened, all sightings from 1980 forward would go into the database, which would apply to habitat mapping in the Landscape

Project. Landscape Project mapping is used by land use agencies to evaluate potentially suitable habitat.

Kathy Clark added that the habitat at the location of older sightings must be deemed suitable for grouse for land use regulations to apply.

Committee member Morton-Galetto stated that when we look at a species for listing we look at the state of the species and not at the implications of protecting the species.

Acting Chairman Virgilio added that there is a decrease in NJ with no recovery in sight. The next step is to move it accordingly to recommendations.

Councilman DeStephano asked if hunting was having any effect at all.

Andy Burnett replied that in a healthy population it does not.

Assistant Director Dave Golden recommends at minimum to go to a closed hunting season statewide.

Committeeman DeVito asked if the Fish and Game Council is advisory or do they decide (vs. recommend) whether to go with Threatened or closing the season and keeping it as a Game species.

Director Herrighty replied that the Council has authority to open, close and determine the length of the season. If the department decided to accept the recommendation as Threatened, then the council will have it taken off the list.

To move to threatened, it would require a change of status, and Fish and Game Council would close season.

Lunch: 12:00 -12:45

Acting Chairman Frank Virgilio informed the meeting that the order of the presentations on the agenda was changed.

Kathy Clark presented on the Clapper Rail. There is a population of 34,000-80,000 with a 3% harvest rate in the Flyway. About one-third of Northeast Clapper Rails breed in NJ. They are primarily found in saltwater marsh less than 3 ft. high. They incubate three weeks and nests are vulnerable to flooding. The parents split the brood, each raise half of the young at one week old. The Clapper Rail's diet is primarily fiddler crabs. Threats are primarily the changes happening in salt marsh environments: sea level rise results in an increase of open water and a decrease in marsh islands. The status assessment resulted in consensus as Special Concern in breeding season, and no consensus for non-breeding season. E-Bird data has over 20,000 records of Clapper Rails in NJ in the last 10 years. More than 700 individual locations have been recorded during the breeding season. In 1998-2016 there has been a decline in saltmarsh birds in marshes with tidal restrictions, but no trend in marshes without tidal restrictions. On average, Clapper

Rails have declined 4.6% a year. The NJ hunting season is 70-days and runs from September 1 through November 10; effectively, it is 40 days for Clapper as most migrate by early October. There is a bag limit of 10, with around 400 rail hunters in NJ. The annual harvest in NJ is 450 birds, about 3% of the flyway harvest. Considerations for Clapper Rail status include: the population size is still large, and BBS trend (increasing) and predicted/modeled trend (declining) do not agree. Listing as Special Concern would require moving species to the list of Nongame Wildlife and off the Game list (under current regulations.) Researchers acknowledge hunting has minimal if any population level impact at this time. Listing as Special Concern is unlikely to provide meaningful habitat protection under DEP land use (CAFRA) regulations.

Policy options are:

- 1. No action: Leave the species status unchanged as a Game species.
- 2. List the species as Special Concern and move it to the Nongame Wildlife list, which automatically closes hunting season
- 3. Recognize the concerns identified in the status review and identify the breeding population <u>only</u> as Special Concern. This requires regulation change to bifurcate species across Game and Nongame Wildlife lists.

Division recommendation: Leave the species status unchanged as a Game species.

Andy Burnett reported on the Northern Bobwhite. Life cycle the is Spring courtship, late May-June nesting, 2-3 weeks they lay average of 14 eggs with a 24-day incubation period. Late June-July they hatch, at 2 weeks they take flight. They are under adult control for 6-7 weeks. In the fall family breakup and diet changes to seed. Winter there is a high predation and mortality rate. Habitat is the number one threat to the Bobwhite in the coastal plain. The natural habitat for Bobwhites are: Spring/Summer grasslands for nesting, roosting and some feeding. Summer/Fall crop fields for feeding, loafing, dusting and roosting. Fall/Winter for brushy areas and woodland to escape cover, winter feeding and roosting. Other threats are predation, weather and disease. E-Bird data had over 2,100 sightings of Bobwhites.

Conservation measures taken:

1. Closed hunting season for wild birds, 2010-2011.

2. Hunting limited to semi-wild, commercial preserves grandfathered from 2009-2010, and on two WMAs. Change in bird-dog training releases limited to pheasant (2016) or chukar (2018).

3. Prohibition of quail releases on WMA in Cumberland and Ocean counties (2017-2018 Game Code).

4. Habitat enhancement on WMA in Cumberland County.

5. Habitat data collection following NBCI-CIP.

6. Translocation research project with partners in Pinelands.

7. Recovery Plan (2017).

The Delphi status assessment resulted in agreement for Endangered in both breeding and nonbreeding seasons.

Policy options are:

- 1. <u>No action</u>. Leave species status unchanged. Species will remain on the Game list. Hunting season will remain closed statewide, except for pen-reared birds, in accordance with the 2009 Northern Bobwhite Action Plan.
- 2. <u>Add species to Endangered Species List</u>. Increased habitat protections through land-use regulations that apply to the bobwhite's upland habitat (such as Pinelands and CAFRA). Implications for licensed hobbyist, scientific collectors, and propagator and sales. Implications for commercial shooting preserves (8-1 total, 1 exclusive; 10,240 birds) and semi-wild hunting clubs (11, none exclusive; 1,342 birds), and Division (11,000 birds). Implications for current and future management/research. Listing could be a disincentive for landowners to enhance habitat and to participate in or resist reintroduction efforts. Implications for DEP permit regulations that use species sightings due to the inability to discern wild from pen-reared birds.
- 3. <u>Create a new conservation status category</u>. This would recognize its precarious population status but not penalize landowners working to restore populations. Release of pen-reared quail is likely to continue, even if illegal, increasing the likelihood that future field sightings would consist of pen-reared birds leading to potential challenges of sightings database.

Director Herrighty addressed the members about one of his main concerns, the recovery efforts at Pine island. There is a landowner who is helping us restore quail and internally we don't even know if there are any left in NJ. If we declare them Endangered does that create Land Use implications for the individual going out of his way to try to help us with quail. Internally we tossed around the idea of some sort of special status for bobwhite, an "experimental population" that might be exempt from some Land Use rules, but we would have to work with the rest of the department on that issue.

Director Herrighty asked what the implications would be if they're extirpated and any quail found in the future would not have that experimental population status.

Assistant Director Dave Golden replied if we listed this species as Endangered it would carry implications for DEP Land Use regulations, which may interfere with people's willingness to help us manage habitat for the species. If reintroduction efforts are successful and the population expands onto other private properties, those landowners could be regulated. The idea of Safe Harbor agreements is to protect landowners who take actions to manage habitat and assist a species' recovery by exempting them from regulatory implications of hosting endangered species. However, the term "endangered species" is in regulations administered by DEP, Pinelands, and Highlands. In order to provide landowners with Safe Harbor, we might need changes in those regulations, or to create some kind of new status that recognizes the conservation need and imperiled status of Quail but doesn't trigger all those land use regulations that could impede the restoration.

Acting Chairman Virgilio mentioned that as of right now the Special Consideration might have the best possibilities as far as the sportsman are concerned. We look on the consumptive side of wildlife because right now we have the five sportsman groups dumping thousands a year for the last four years, developing habitat on their own money and are getting ready to introduce quail there. He just can't see penalizing all these people that want to do something about quail by restricting land use where the guy next door might want to jump on board and say no, I want an Endangered species on my property. This might be the best way to go now and revisit in 5 years.

Committee member Morton-Galetto questioned what the implications are if we act differently, are there any implications to anything else we listed if we were to act differently.

Committee member Applegate commented that the status assessment method has served us well for 25 years. It would be a right angle turn for ENSAC to take a consensus vote and not follow it with our recommendation. That's our responsibility for wildlife and our commitment to that methodology tells us to do. Then it's their (DFW) job to balance all the other things that have to come through, and he believes they have done a wonderful job doing that over the years.

There was a lot of discussion back and forth on this topic.

Assistant Director Golden added that we are no longer able to stock quail on Wildlife Management Areas that are in the recovery zone, including areas adjacent to the property where NJ Audubon is currently working with landowners.

Committee member Mizrahi mentioned that it would be good to know what's agreed to or discussed by the Fish and Game Council on this topic that we are not privy to. Then we will have our own discussion about this topic.

Assistant Director Golden mentioned that what will likely happen is the next meetings for each council will have more discussion about the presentations and discussions, and that will filter up to the division through recommendations and then deliberate on it and then bring it back to each council separately.

Kathy Clark presented on the Common Gallinule. They are most common in freshwater marshes with abundant emergent and floating vegetation. They tend to nest on mats of aquatic vegetation and have a varied omnivorous diet. Frequently found in association with the American coots. Relatively early fall migration out of NJ.

The status assessment resulted in consensus agreement for Special Concern in the breeding season. There was no consensus in the non-breeding season, with votes split between Special Concern and Stable.

The Common Gallinule is most common now and historically found in the Southeast U.S. The population is generally declining in Eastern Region BBS, though surveys have low credibility due to low detectability. There is a history of large population swings in ephemeral habitats, including sites with tidal restrictions and landfill closures in northern NJ where habitat has since changed. This species is very secretive and difficult to detect without specialized surveys.

Hunting for the Gallinule is a 70-day season that runs from September 1-November 10, concurrent with the season for rails. There is a bag limit of 10 a day.

Hunters: No one "strictly" pursues gallinules in NJ. Hunters can harvest Gallinule incidental to rail hunting and coot/duck seasons (September/October) in tidal freshwater marshes. There is a rich tradition of Sora hunting in tidal freshwater marsh. The annual harvest in NJ is 24 birds (1% of flyway harvest of 2,210 birds).

Policy Options are:

- 1. No Action. Species status unchanged; remains on the Game list with an open season.
- 2. Change species status to Special Concern (breeding). Moves species to the list of Nongame Wildlife. The hunting season would be closed. No appreciable increase in habitat protections through land use regulations afforded to SC species.
- 3. Identify the breeding population <u>only</u> as Special Concern. Requires a regulation change to bifurcate species across Game and Nongame Wildlife lists. Would allow SC protection for breeding season but allows harvest in non-breeding season.
- 4. No change in status; close the season.

Division Recommendation:

No action. Retain as Game species with no change. DFW biologists suggest that the Gallinule geographic range is peripheral in NJ relative to its national range. Listing as Special Concern for breeding season would require moving species to the list of Nongame Wildlife and off the Game list; hunting is minimal and not likely a contributing factor to populations.

The Delphi status assessment did not result in consensus for non-breeding season, with 10 suggesting Special Concern, and 4 suggesting Secure/Stable.

The discussion about bifurcating a species across game and nongame lists was an idea that would require a change in regulation. If there are species for which a special concern status is warranted in the breeding season, but non-breeding season hunting is deemed negligible to the population, such bifurcation would be a possibility after regulatory amendment.

Acting Chairman Frank Virgilio gave a special thank you to Kathy Clark and Andy Burnett for their presentations.

Public Comment (3 min.)

Dave, Bordentown, NJ. Asked about a legislative question that was not part of this topic. He was given the website to look up the information he requested.

Sylvia Sloan, NJ Forest watch, mentioned it was great to hear comments on Global climate impacts and increasing sea level trends referenced to the Clapper Rail. What's interesting is that

many of the other species mentioned today, there was no discussion with the climate changes we are seeing happening, not only in NJ but across worldwide. According to National Audubon when we look at the Ruffed Grouse population on the website it says this species is projected to lose approximately 34% breeding range by 2080. It's great that we are thinking about management activities, but we also need to really make sure that our climate situation is taken into effect.

Barbara Sachau, Whitehouse Station, NJ, had to leave early so she left her comments and they will be attached to the back of the minutes.

A motion was made by Councilman DeMartino and seconded by Councilman DeStephano to adjourn the meeting at 2:30 pm. Vote taken, all in favor, none-apposed; motioned carried.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday November 13 at 10:00 a.m.

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For the Record