

BOROUGH OF SADDLE RIVER  
MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION  
HELD: MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2011

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**PRESENT:** Jerry DeCrosta, Chairman, Marilyn Goldfisher, Don Kretz, Henry Senger, Ron Yates, Warren Boardman, Council Representative

**ABSENT:** Al Kurpis

Chairman DeCrosta called the meeting to order at 7:40pm.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion was made to approve the October 24, 2011 minutes by Henry Senger. Seconded by Don Kretz.  
Roll Call Vote: AYES: Unanimous

**WORK SESSION:**

**Update on Tree City:**

Chairman DeCrosta asked Ron Yates to update the Commission about his conversation with Borough Planner Richard Preiss regarding the Tree City designation currently being worked on by the Borough. He further stated that Mr. Preiss had some concerns about costs for this program which were clarified as well as concerns about the current tree ordinances which could incorporate the Tree City Program. Council Member Boardman explained that it was the Council's intention to add any components necessary for the Tree City designation to the tree Ordinance but stated that this ordinance amendment will be extensive and could take some time. He further encouraged the Commission to apply for the Tree City designation; Ron Yates stated that this has already been done and the Mayor and Council are in receipt of the necessary amendments to the tree ordinance to comply for this designation.

Chairman DeCrosta stated that he would like to see the final amended tree ordinance encompass those items necessary for the Tree City designation as well as the other tree issues the Mayor and Council wish to address. He further stated that he would like to meet with Council Member Boardman, Council Member Mike Toomey and Ron Yates to determine the exact language to be added to the tree ordinance so the Tree City designation could be acted on expediently.

Council Member Boardman stated that he would call Administrator Cuccia to discuss this issue further.

Dead trees around the Borough were discussed, both on County roads as well as on private property.

**Update on Saddle River Dredging Project:**

Jerry DeCrosta stated that the project has been approved and Borough Engineer Spence has been authorized to put it out to bid. The timing of the project is very important as there will be restrictions put into place around the fish spawning season in

the spring. Marilyn Goldfisher reiterated that the work, especially by the bridge on East Allendale Road, should be a high priority as it will wash out again in a heavy storm.

**Update on East Saddle River Road Property:**

Chairman DeCrosta stated that soil testing has been completed and the work is scheduled to commence on November 29, 2011. The soil that was brought onto the property will be removed and the property will be brought back to its original state in order to rectify the flooding problems created on neighboring properties.

**Update on Waterford Gardens:**

Chairman DeCrosta stated that the property owner will be removing the newer portion of the wall in dispute as well as the steel tanks that were installed without permits.

**Update on Septic Ordinance Draft:**

Chairman DeCrosta stated that he spoke with Martin Spence about the septic ordinance draft. The current Borough septic ordinance complies with the DEP and if they were to institute any changes, the Borough would incorporate those changes into the ordinance.

The Environmental Commission has been reviewing the septic ordinance written by the Borough of West Milford and felt it would be prudent to add those sections applicable to the Saddle River septic ordinance and this was discussed at this time.

The Commission discussed adding a section in the upcoming Borough newsletter reminding residents about septic maintenance and care. Additionally, the Commission felt it would be beneficial to remind residents that it is prohibited to blow leaves and debris into the Saddle River.

The Commission agreed that the monthly meetings will begin at 6:30pm in 2012.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the regular meeting of the Environmental Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

Joy C. Convertini  
Secretary