

BOROUGH OF SADDLE RIVER
MINUTES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
HELD: MONDAY, MARCH 26, 2012

PRESENT: Jerry DeCrosta, Chairman, Marilyn Goldfisher, Don Kretz, Bob LaViano, Henry Senger, Ron Yates, Warren Boardman, Council Representative, Al Kurpis, Planning Board Representative

ABSENT:

PRESIDING: Chairman DeCrosta called the meeting to order at 6:45pm; Commission Secretary Joy Convertini read the following statement:

PUBLIC NOTICE: "Notice of this meeting in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act Chapter 231 of the laws of 1975, has been given by posting a notice of the scheduled dates of all regular meetings of the Environmental Commission of the Borough of Saddle River on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building and in the office of the Borough Clerk and by emailing a notice thereof to the Ridgewood Newspapers and The Record on December 31, 2010."

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made to approve the January 23, 2012 minutes by Henry Senger. Second by Jerry DeCrosta
Roll Call Vote: AYES: Unanimous

WORK SESSION:

Update on Saddle River Dredging Project: Chairman DeCrosta stated that the project has begun and he presented a map of the areas that will be included in the project. The County is funding this project and bank stabilization permits have been issued with this work proceeding as well. The river has dropped six inches since the beginning of the dredging project and the Borough is hopeful that this will help remedy the extreme flooding issues that have taken place during heavy storms in the past. Chairman DeCrosta explained that the dredging cannot be conducted north of East Allendale Rd. at this time, due to the trout spawning season.

Update on Tree Ordinance: Warren Boardman stated that the Zoning Committee is meeting on April 12, 2012 in order to address the current tree ordinance and the Tree City designation that the Environmental Commission is obtaining. The mission is to adopt a tree ordinance that will address both the Borough's needs and will accommodate the criteria for the Tree City designation.

Marilyn Goldfisher stated that residents are removing very large old trees around the Borough and replacing them with a variety of fruit trees, and many were destroyed during the storms last year.

Ron Yates suggested that a Tree Board be established in the Borough with Scott Levy,

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Borough Landscape Architect as a consultant, in an effort to have more hard wood trees replaced throughout Saddle River. It was also suggested that the Environmental Commission sponsor a small tree farm effort in Rindlaub Park in conjunction with Arbor Day.

At this time, Al Kurpis gave an update on his presentation at the Mayor and Council meeting of March 19, 2012 regarding the Perillo House. He explained that the family has donated this historical structure to the Borough for use as a gate house at the entrance of Rindlaub Park, after the park ingress and egress construction is complete.

He also addressed grant monies available that he would like to see the Borough utilize for the Saddle River Museum. The renovation plan for both the interior and exterior of the Museum was also discussed at this time.

Private Ponds: Chairman DeCrosta stated that he has received several inquiries from residents with private ponds that are in need of remediation. He further stated that he would like to have a meeting, inviting all of these residents, to address issues including silting, mosquitoes, dredging and general clean up.

The need to clean up the roadways in the Borough was also addressed.

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