

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION OF THE
BOROUGH OF SADDLE RIVER
HELD: SEPTEMBER 23, 2013**

PRESENT: Chairman Jerry DeCrosta, Commission Members: Marilyn Goldfisher, Bob LaViano, Ron Yates, Henry Senger, Al Kurpis, Council Representative

ABSENT: Commission Member Don Kretz

PRESIDING: Chairman DeCrosta called the meeting to order at 6:40pm; 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 20, 2012 and on the Borough website."

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made to approve the June 24, 2013 minutes by Jerry DeCrosta. Seconded by Ron Yates
Roll Call Vote: AYES: Unanimous

WORK SESSION:

Hazardous Tree Program: Chairman DeCrosta stated that dead trees, both on public and private property, were identified, with notices going out to anyone in violation. 61 trees on private property were identified and an additional 61 trees were identified, with 50 being on Borough property and 11 being on County property. Bob LaViano stated that many of the ash trees are diseased and are dying and are in need of being removed. The importance of this issue was addressed and it was decided that Chairman DeCrosta would draft a letter to the Mayor and Council to insure that this project continues to be enforced as it poses a serious public safety issue.

AT&T Cell Tower Antenna: Chairman DeCrosta stated that AT&T would like to relocate their cell tower antenna from the cupola at the Post Office to the cell tower on the Police Department property. A small addition will have to be added to house the ground equipment adjacent to the Police Department.

Saddle River Community Garden: Chairman DeCrosta stated that a resident has approached the town regarding planting a garden in order to provide local food pantries with fresh produce. One of the proposed locations for this garden was in the front of the Saddle River Museum. The Commission addressed the maintenance and location of the garden and it was determined that the Museum property would not be the best choice.

The Saddle River Boom: The boom was discussed and Marilyn Goldfisher stated that the town would like the owner of Barnstable Court to address this issue as it is on private property.

Borough Newsletter/Environmental Supplement: Several ideas for the next newsletter were discussed including the danger of cell phone use among children, property maintenance and dangerous tree removal.

The Marker House: The Environmental Commission discussed possible uses for the Marker property, adjacent to Rindlaub Park.

Deer Problem: The Environmental Commission addressed the deer problem in the Borough. Several chemicals were discussed as well as administering contraceptives.

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The Tree Ordinance: The Ordinance Review Committee is working on amending the current tree ordinance and Chairman DeCrosta encouraged members to attend a scheduled meeting to address this on October 4, 2013 at 8:15am in the Municipal Building.

NEW BUSINESS: Marilyn Goldfisher asked about the street sweeper that Saddle River currently utilizes and she was advised to contact Council President Mastriano for more information.

Bob LaViano discussed the free advertising supplement that is deposited on driveways throughout the Borough. There is a phone number on the Borough website for anyone who wishes discontinue this paper.

OLD BUSINESS:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Joy C. Convertini
Secretary