

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE LANDMARKS COMMISSION OF THE  
BOROUGH OF SADDLE RIVER  
HELD MAY 23, 2012**

**PRESENT:** Chairman Al Kurpis Commission Members, Maurice Burke, Jonathan Kurpis, Mary Bello Mutter, Michael Trepicchio, Marie Harper, Council Representative Michael Toomey

**ABSENT:**

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**PRESIDING:** The meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm; 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 Landmarks 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 23, 2011.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion was made to approve the March 28, 2012 minutes by Commission Member Michael Trepicchio. Second by Commission Member Maria Harper  
Roll Call Vote: AYES, Unanimous

**WORK SESSION:**

**G. Litchult House:** Chairman Kurpis stated that this home, built in 1740, is located on East Saddle River Road on a large piece of property with several structures on it. The property is being subdivided and the home was slated to be removed as there was some confusion about its historic designation. He further stated that he immediately contacted the chairman of the Planning Board and was able to prevent this home from being demolished. Jon Kurpis stated that this home is also recorded on the list of historic homes in Saddle River. Chairman Kurpis further stated that this home is also similar to the Perillo house slated to be moved and used as a gate house to Rindlaub Park and suggested that the Litchult House be moved and used for the same purpose.

Jon Kurpis stated that it should be the charge of the Landmarks Commission to preserve historic homes and insure that they are not demolished in error.

Chairman Kurpis stated that he intends to speak with the property owner's attorney to insure that this home stays intact.

## **DESIGNATIONS/APPLICATIONS:**

**Blk. 1606 Lot 21  
139 West Saddle River Road (Pell House)  
James & Krista Barabas  
Replace kitchen windows are part of kitchen renovation  
APPROVED**

The Landmarks Commission was in receipt of pictures of the proposed windows, dimensions, a property site plan and pictures of the window locations and home owner Krista Barabas explained this to the Commission at this time.

A motion to **approve** this application was offered by Commission Member Jon Kurpis  
Second by Commission Member Harper  
Roll Call Vote: AYES, Unanimous

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Jon Kurpis stated that there will be an Historic Preservation Grant Workshop on June 12, 2012 in Hackensack, NJ and he is planning to attend. He further stated that, if the Borough of Saddle River wished to apply for this grant, a letter of intent was due by July 19, 2012 with the complete application to be submitted by August 30, 2012. He stated that he was fairly confident that Saddle River could receive grant monies to be used for several historic properties in the Borough.

Council Representative Toomey stated that Wandell School would like to install an electronic sign on the property. He further stated that an ordinance was adopted by the Mayor and Council on May 23, 2012 designating the downtown area the Saddle River Crossing Historic District, with Wandell School located within this district. Any signage in this district must be approved by the Landmarks Commission and a certificate of appropriateness must be issued accordingly.

Chairman Kurpis stated that he does not feel an electronic sign is appropriate in the historic district and is concerned that the approval of this kind of sign could set a precedent that is not consistent with the this district.

Council Representative Toomey stated that the Mayor and Council is currently working on an ordinance regulating the building of schools and churches within the Borough. He explained some of the parameters of this amendment at this time. This ordinance will give the town increased control by making it a permitted use with a six acre minimum.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Joy C. Convertini  
Secretary