

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE LANDMARKS COMMISSION OF THE  
BOROUGH OF SADDLE RIVER  
HELD January 29, 2014**

**PRESENT:** Commission Members: Chairman Kurpis, Mary Bello, Gloria Blumenthal, Maria Harper, Joanne Kakaty, Jack LaViano, Michael Trepicchio  
Council Rep. Al Kurpis

**ABSENT:**

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**PRESIDING:** The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.; 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, 2013 and on the Borough website.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion was made to approve the September 25, 2013 minutes by Commission Member Mary Bello. Second by Commission Chairman Jon Kurpis  
Roll Call Vote: AYES, Unanimous

**REORGANIZATION**

**Appointment of Commission Chairman Jon Kurpis**

Motion Offered by Commission Member Michael Trepicchio  
Second by Commission Member Maria Harper  
Roll Call Vote: AYES, Unanimous

**Appointment of Commission Secretary Joy Convertini**

Motion Offered by Commission Member Michael Trepicchio  
Second by Commission Member Mary Bello  
Roll Call Vote: AYES, Unanimous

**WORK SESSION:**

**Union Center National Bank Sign Application - 71 East Allendale Road**

Chairman Kurpis stated that the bank, located at 71 East Allendale Road, had changed ownership and was granted a Certificate of Appropriateness for signage in September of 2013. The Union Center National Bank will be opened shortly and is now seeking approval for temporary signage that would indicate they're open for business.

**DESIGNATION/APPLICATIONS:**

**Blk. 1607 Lot 2  
71 East Allendale Road  
Union Center National Bank  
Temporary Signage  
APPROVED**

Marta McGowan, Vice President, Project Manager for Union Center National Bank represented the application and explained the application in detail at this time. The applicant is seeking approval for temporary signage on the railing in front of the building indicating that it is open for business. Copies of the proposed signage were distributed to commission members for their review. The design of the sign is the same font and color scheme as previously approved signage and it was agreed that the sign would be posted on February 10, 2014 through April 27, 2014.

A motion to approve this application was offered by Commission Chairman Kurpis.  
Seconded by Jack LaViano.  
Roll Call Vote: AYES, Unanimous

Chairman Kurpis stated that he is in receipt of a letter regarding the cell tower and related equipment, advising the Commission that additional antennas will be added to the existing tower.

Dr. Kurpis suggested that the Landmarks Commission encourage the Mayor and Council to consider adding more branches to the existing tower. Additionally, he suggested that a rendition of exactly what is being proposed be presented before any work commences. The existing antenna, located in the Post Office cupola, is going to be dismantled and moved to the cell tower. It was decided that the Landmarks Commission write a letter to the Mayor and Council requesting to obtain more information as well as a rendering of what the proposed plan will resemble.

**The Saddle River Museum/Bishop House:** Chairman Kurpis stated that he would like to address the interior modifications necessary in order to present a plan to the Mayor and Council. The exterior work that has been completed came in under budget with a talented compliment of committee members providing invaluable input.

Dr. Kurpis stated that some Council members inquired about the Museum and grants that were received as well as monies the Borough budgeted and this was discussed in detail. He further stated that currently, most of the Council is in favor of both the Museum as well as the Bishop House and they would like to see both under the auspices of the governing body. Additionally, the Chairman of both facilities should attend Landmarks Commission meetings moving forward in order provide status updates.

A motion was offered by Joanne Kakaty for the Landmarks Commission to formally contact the Chairman of the Bishop House and ask that they attend the February 26, 2014 meeting as well as provide a written status report. Seconded by Mary Bello. Roll Call Vote: AYES, Unanimous.

Chairman Kurpis stated that the Bishop House lost their non-profit status and many committee members are no longer participating. He further stated that he feels it is being under-utilized and may be more beneficial for the Borough to take it over in order to prevent it from falling into disrepair.

Dr. Kurpis reiterated that the current Mayor and Council are, for the most part, in favor of supporting the Saddle River Museum project and stated that a plan should be presented outlining the interior work necessary in order to get the Museum up and running. Chairman Kurpis stated that the interior work to be completed has all been measured and has gone out to bid and he would present this to the Mayor and Council. Additionally, he stated that all of the artifacts are in storage and are in very good

condition.

Joanne Kakaty suggested targeting a completion date for the interior work by Memorial Day and having a ceremony in conjunction with the town celebration. She further stated that she is the Chairman of the Garden Club and she would like to work in conjunction with the Saddle River Museum to orchestrate the landscaping on the property.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Joy C. Convertini  
Secretary