

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE LANDMARKS COMMISSION OF THE
BOROUGH OF SADDLE RIVER
HELD APRIL 27, 2016**

PRESENT: Commission Chairman Jon Kurpis; Commission Members: Joanne Kakaty, Mary Bello Mutter, Maria Harper And Council Rep. Liz Salazer

ABSENT: Commission Members: Gloria Blumenthal, Michael Trepicchio, John Lasalandra, Ferne Lambert

PRESIDING: The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m.

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 Herald News and The Record on December 16, 2015 and on the Borough website.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made to approve the March 23, 2016 minutes by Jon Kurpis. Seconded by Joanne Kakaty
Roll Call Vote: AYES, Unanimous

DESIGNATION/APPLICATIONS: There were none.

WORK SESSION:

Procurement of Grant:

Jonathan Kurpis stated that grants can be very complex and can come with serious clauses that need to be considered. Councilwoman Salazer stated that the Mayor and Council are in the process of hiring a grant consultant to help with all Borough grant considerations.

The Bishop House:

Joanne Kakaty expressed her continued frustration with the lack of action at the Bishop House. She further stated that she asked to run a water line but, this was not approved. She further expressed she always feels she can never get a straight answer.

Councilwoman Salazer stated that Mayor Kurpis wants to meet with the Bishop House Committee, possibly next week.

Chairman Kurpis stated that he understands Ms. Kakaty's frustration and that he will work with the Mayor and Council to ensure that the Borough keeps up their moral and legal obligation to protect the two Borough owned historic properties.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: No one wished to be heard.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Jon Kurpis announced that the appointment of the advisory committee for both the Bishop House and The Saddle River Museum have been approved by Mayor and Council. However, he didn't understand why there were three opposed votes for The Saddle River Museum. He asked that Councilwoman Salazer clarify.

Councilwoman Salazer explained that, although she had not read the minutes as of yet, her recollection is that Councilwoman Kerner felt that Councilman Acaster was too busy with his other committees and commitments. She further stated that Councilwoman Kerner offered to be the Council representative, explaining that she lives in a historical house; however, Councilman Acaster explained that he has a long history with The Museum and would be fine managing his time.

Jon Kurpis expressed his disappointment in the three council people who voted against the committee for the Saddle River Museum. He further explained the reasons he chose these members when he put the committee together. He stated that Councilman Acaster is an original member of the committee and has been a resident his entire life. He further stated that he owns a contracting business and this has been useful in the past. He further stated that he has to be on the committee because he is the town historian and on The Landmarks Committee. He further explained that John May, prior to himself, was the Borough Historian and a founding member; he was extremely instrumental in getting the museum's building bought by the town and getting the majority of the artifacts that reside therein. He further stated that Mike Trepicchio has lived in town, is on the Landmark's Committee, and the past president of the Bergen County Historical Society. He further added that Maria Harper has landmark experience and can bring a female perspective to the committee.

The Saddle River Museum:

Joanne Kakaty suggested making an announcement at the Memorial Day Service that The Saddle River Museum is open, making a walkway to the building, and serving refreshments.

A motion was made by Joanne Kakaty and seconded by Mary Bello to open The Saddle River Museum at the Memorial Day Service.

Voice Vote: All Ayes, Unanimous

Wandell School:

Jon Kurpis wanted to bring to the Landmark Commissions attention and commend the students at Wandell School for scoring highest on the state testing.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Mary Bello and seconded by Jon Kurpis to adjourn the regular meeting of the Landmarks Commission.

Voice Vote: All Ayes, Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Cremer
Secretary