

## ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

November 19, 2025

Meeting Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission of the Borough of Roosevelt was called to order by Chairman Michael Ticktin on Wednesday, November 19, 2025 at 7:01pm.

The Roll was called by Secretary, Maria Dellasala

### ROLL CALL:

Present: Lawrence Mendies, Maureen Parrott, Dave Teich, Michael Ticktin

Absent: Sam Ashburner, Ben Johnson, Kathleen Murphy

**ADEQUATE PUBLIC NOTICE OF MEETING STATEMENT:** Adequate notice of this meeting has been given, in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, by notices published in the Asbury Park Press and the Times of Trenton on January 30, 2025 and posted on the bulletin boards in the Borough Hall and at the Roosevelt Post Office.

### Environmental Commission Mission Statement

1. To protect, preserve, and enhance the natural environment within our jurisdiction.
2. To promote sustainable practices and responsible resource management for the benefit of present and future generations.
3. To Advocate for environmental justice, ensuring equitable access to clean air, water, and a healthy environment for all communities.

Goals: Short term goals for the next 18 months approved (approved by EC on 11/15/23)

Environmental Education and Outreach of these subjects:

1. Forever Chemicals are PFAS chemicals that disrupt the immune system and are carcinogenic.
2. Investigate Community Solar or other programs that allow households to use renewable energy without installing solar panels on their homes. Learn more about Clean Choice energy which allows a resident to select renewable energy as the source of energy for their home. Present results at a community meeting.
3. Advocate for safe and responsible waste management practices. Partnering with the Recycle Coordinator to get more information out on what is recyclable. Also encourage use of eco-friendly products

### Land and People Acknowledgement

Lawrence Mendies reads: The land and waterways upon which the residents of the Borough of Roosevelt gather and live are the ancestral and unceded Lenapehoking territory of the Lenni-Lenape nation. We honor the contributions of their ancestors, those now in the diaspora, and the Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape, Ramapough Lenape and Powhatan Renape who continue to live in the areas we call New Jersey. We honor this ancestral land of the Lenni-Lenape Nation. May we live in harmony, caring for this sacred land.

### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Motion was made by Dave Teich to approve the agenda and second was made by Maureen Parrott. Agenda was unanimously passed.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE AGENDA:**

Chairman Ticktin opens the meeting to the public for comments on the agenda at: 7:04pm.

No Public Comment

Chairman Ticktin closes the meeting to the public for comments on the agenda at: 7:04pm.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** October 15, 2025 – Maureen Parrott made a motion to approve the October 15, 2025, minutes with a second from Lawrence Mendies. Minutes were unanimously approved.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. **Resolution 25-111** from Borough Council renewing Sustainable Land Use Pledge
2. **ANJEC** – October Monthly Digest
3. **ANJEC** – October Environmental News Digest
4. **ANJEC** – ANJEC’s 2025 Environmental Congress – Resources Now Available
5. **ANJEC** – Silent Auction
6. **ANJEC** – From Runoff to Renewal, Zoom Webinar, Monday, November 10
7. **Sustainable Jersey** – Re-Certification Refresh Initiative
8. **Sustainable Jersey** – Update
9. **NJDEP** – NJUCF News & Updates 11/1/2025
10. **Assunpink** – Public Meeting Notice
11. **ANJEC** – Rolling out a New Stormwater Utility – Monday, November 1, 2025 at Noon  
Via Zoom
12. **The Watershed Institute** – Would like to schedule a meeting to review the regional approach
13. **2025 NJUCF** - Accreditation Status
14. **ANJEC** – Action Alert Lame Duck Session

**REPORT OF PLANNING BOARD LIAISON-** Lawrence Mendies reports that the last Planning Board meeting was canceled due to lack of quorum. There was a conflict of interest for Heidi Mendies and also M/Malkin and C/Kaufman-Marut had to step down. Meeting re-scheduled till December 11, 2025.

#### **REPORT OF COUNCIL LIAISON:**

C/Warnick states the following:

2 ordinances have been passed by the Borough Council. Water tower repairs are going to cost approximately \$132,000. Amphitheater referendum passed. The CFO will have the audit done by mid-December. The Friend for Roosevelt can start with the planning stage of the Amphitheater and hopefully by March the bids can be advertised.

The Woodland Path from the triangle to the school there is a freezing issue also between bike and people walking on the path there is not enough room, we should get signs for bikers to yield to walkers.

- Administrative – No report at this time.
- Forest Management – Sam Ashburner was not at the meeting but asked for any feedback on the 2025 end of year draft report that he emailed.
- Invasive Plant Species – No report at this time.
- Stream Monitoring – No report at this time.
- Sustainable Jersey – Hilary Wilder reports that 2026 is a reset, a look back year. Ms. Wilder reports that the Forest Management Plan needs to be updated and the cost is approximately \$6200.00. The last plan was for the period 2017-2021 and then we received an extension to 12/31/26. In the past we had a lot of knowledge from Ellen Silverman. To keep our bronze certification, we need 150 points

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Maureen Parrott brings up the community solar project that Arielle Debira was working on, however, Ms. Debira is no longer on the Environmental Commission – can someone else move forward on this. Ms. Parrott is working on getting additional information on solar landscaping.
2. Lawrence Mendies bring up the Beech Leaf Disease – Maureen Parrott reports she did research on Beech Leaf Disease treatment. According to the NJDEP: "There is no known treatment for beech leaf disease, but research is ongoing. Best management practices, such as following Don't Move Firewood guidelines and monitoring healthy beech trees in landscapes and forests, may be the best defense until beech leaf disease is better understood.

The New Jersey Forest Service is helping to support research efforts by establishing 12 long-term monitoring plots to measure and track beech leaf disease across New Jersey. This is part of a collaborative multi-state effort to collect data in hopes to detect trends and better understand beech leaf disease progression."

[https://www.dep.nj.gov/newsrel/22\\_0037/](https://www.dep.nj.gov/newsrel/22_0037/)

I called the NJDEP and spoke with the official working on Forest Health. She informed me that the State is not treating any beech trees on state owned property because the treatment is experimental and not cost-effective.

The National Park Service website has an article from 2025 entitled Treating Beech Leaf Disease which states: "An experimental injection treatment is now one of the few treatment options for managing BLD. Over the last 3 years, researchers at Bartlett Trees and Rainbow Ecoscience have been testing BLD treatments. They found the fungicide Arbotect 20-S, which has the active ingredient thiabendazole and is labeled for treating Dutch elm disease, to be effective at minimizing visible BLD symptoms in trees and preventing canopy dieback . . .

In July 2025, a team of plant pathologists and forest health experts from the US Forest Service, Virginia Department of Forestry, DC Department of Transportation, and Rainbow Ecoscience along with NCR park staff held a biological evaluation of BLD at Prince William Forest Park. They also did a demonstration treatment using Arbotect 20-S at Cabin Camp 2 . . .

While Arbotect injections for BLD are promising, research on the disease and its management is still ongoing. Many questions remain, including whether the treatment builds up within trees, if treated trees can provide protection to neighboring trees, or if

Arbotect's effectiveness diminishes over time . . .”

<https://www.nps.gov/articles/000/treating-beech-leaf-disease.htm>

A lengthy discussion with the Environmental Commission members and Tim Hartley and Steve Taylor regarding all the information on Beech Leaf Disease. Unanswered questions are: how to we proceed, research and add as an agenda item on upcoming meetings. Also maybe we can invite guest speakers with knowledge of Beech Leaf Disease to an upcoming meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Chairman Ticktin opens the public comment at: 8:18pm.

C/Warnick speaks about the upcoming costs the Borough will incur, there is approximately 6 million-dollars' worth of work that the Borough needs to do from trickling filters, to the water tower, to garbage collection, fire and first aid...How do we deal with all this - bonding vs bans. Also COAH we will have to rehab up to 30 homes.

Chairman Ticktin closes the public comment at: 8:23pm.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Dave Teich motioned to adjourn, Lawrence Mendies offered a second. It was unanimously passed to adjourn at 8:23pm.

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Maria Dellasala, Secretary



