

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

December 17, 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, December 17, 2025 at 7:00pm.

The Roll was called by Secretary, Maria Dellasala

ROLL CALL:

Present: Sam Ashburner, Lawrence Mendies, Dave Teich, Michael Ticktin, Kathleen Murphy

Absent: Ben Johnson, Maureen Parrott

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

Kathleen Murphy 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 Kathleen Murphy to approve the agenda and second was made by Dave Teich. Agenda was unanimously passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE AGENDA:

Chairman Ticktin opens the meeting to the public for comments on the agenda at: 7:02pm.

No Public Comment

Chairman Ticktin closes the meeting to the public for comments on the agenda at: 7:02pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: November 19, 2025 – Kathleen Murphy made a motion to approve the November 19, 2025, minutes with a second from Dave Teich. Minutes were unanimously approved.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. **State of New Jersey** – NJ Updates, Events, Deadlines, Programs, Guidance and more
2. **ANJEC** – Hour of Action: 2025 Lame Duck Priorities
3. **NJ DEP** – NJUCF News and Updates 12/1/2025
4. **ANJEC** – Local Environment Matters

REPORT OF PLANNING BOARD LIAISON – Mr. Mendies that at last week's Planning Board meeting some members had to recuse themselves. JCP&L's attorneys did a presentation regarding their application that is in front of the Planning Board. They said they were looking for long eared bats and they will be coming back to another meeting. There was a lot of discussion regarding the trees under the transmission lines, they want to cut over 400 trees from the right a way. Many voiced their concerns with so many trees being cut – ongoing discussion will be held. Mr. Hartley said that a mini committee is being formed, which includes the Borough Engineer and Tim Hartley. Mr. Mendies states they plan on taking down trees to ground level but not removing tree stumps, which will be a problem with weeds and growth. Also SADC wants to come out and train the Zoning Officer, Borough Council, Planning Board and Environmental Commission so all members understand the Right To Farm Law.

REPORT OF COUNCIL LIAISON:

C/Warnick states the following;

- Borough Council is not opposed to a Woodland Inventory, however, what is being inventoried, what is the cost and what is the benefit to the Borough.
- The signs on the Woodland Trail - the Environmental Commission will take the lead. Council wants to join Assunpink Regional Watershed Assessment Report – need draft resolution. JoLynn Moloughney from the Watershed will get a draft resolution to Municipal Clerk, Kathleen Hart. Carmella Roberts will submit Tier A Stormwater permit which includes large Stormwater map and other required data.
- The Council adopted Bond Ordinance for repairs to the water tower and Bond Ordinance for various improvements to N. Valley Road.
- Shared services agreement with Hightstown will be adopted at the January meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Assunpink Regional Watershed Assessment Report - JoLynn Moloughney discusses the regional approach for the Assunpink as well as the Upper Millstone. The Assunpink Regional Watershed Assessment is at no cost to the Borough. Once the draft resolution is complete she will forward to the borough clerk for review and next steps. The Upper Millstone regional approach will cost the borough \$4500, they are looking for grants to cover costs.
2. Forest Management – Kevin Scibilia discusses with the 2023 Street Tree and Certified Forest Management Plan – there was no follow up. The borough can choose what it would like to focus on, maybe street trees. Mr. Scibilia has a brief discussion with Tim Hartley regarding Beech Tree Disease, how many trees are affected, where are they located and what are the options. Mr. Scibilia is asked to send a proposal that will help us better understand the following:

- What is included in the inventory
- What is the cost
- Grant (NJDEP refunding) opportunities
- Potential re-use of data from Grace and Harrigan, which was produced for Roosevelt
- Benefits which could be achieved for the town
- Anything else he thinks will help us sell this

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

- Administrative – No report at this time.
- Forest Management – Covered above. Tim Hartley states he has had a couple conversations with State Forestry and Assunpink. Basically funding is a big concern, but there are some options to reduce costs. He will continue to have conversations with Assunpink. A letter will be sent to Assunpink from the Environmental Commission, Tim Hartley will send Maria a draft.
- Invasive Plant Species – Steve Taylor reports that the sign has been pulled up again on Valley Road. He has the sign and will re-plant in the spring.
- Stream Monitoring – No report at this time.
- Sustainable Jersey – Hilary Wilder reports we are off the hook for 2026, all that we did this past year and all of 2026 will be good for 2027, should be enough for Bronze re-certification.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chairman Ticktin opens the public comment at: 7:59pm.

The Environmental Commission re-organization meeting which is to take place on January 21, 2026 will have to be moved due to a conflict with the Planning Board, therefore it is agreed that the Environmental Commission will move its meeting to January 28, 2027.

Chairman Ticktin closes the public comment at: 8:02pm.

ADJOURNMENT: Lawrence Mendies motioned to adjourn, Sam Ashburner offered a second. It was unanimously passed to adjourn at 8:03pm.

Maria Dellasala, Secretary