

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

February 25, 2026

Meeting Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the Environmental Commission of the Borough of Roosevelt was called to order by Chairman Michael Ticktin on Wednesday, February 25, 2026 at 7:00 P.M.

The Roll was called by Secretary, Maria Dellasala

ROLL CALL:

Present: Michael Ticktin, Tim Hartley, Lawrence Mendies, Kathleen Murphy, Hilary Wilder

Absent: Maureen Parrott, Dave Teich

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 Trenton Times on December 31, 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

Kathleen Murphy reads Land and People Acknowledgement

The land and waterways upon which the residents of the Borough of Roosevelt gather and live are the ancestral 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 Hilary Wilder. Agenda was unanimously passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE AGENDA:

Chairman Ticktin opens the meeting to the public for comments on the agenda at: 7:03pm.

No Public Comment

Chairman Ticktin closes the meeting to the public for comments on the agenda at: 7:03pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 28, 2026 – Kathleen Murphy made a motion to approve the January 28, 2026, minutes with a second from Lawrence Mendies. Minutes were unanimously passed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. **ANJEC** – Local Environmental Matters
2. **ANJEC** – 2025-26 Lane Duck Policies Recap!
3. **ANJEC** – The Stormwater MS4 Permit: What, Why and How – Wednesday February 11, 7:00pm Via Zoom Webinar
4. **Sustainable Jersey** – Grants for Sustainability Projects
5. **ANJEC** – 2026 Fundamentals for Effective Environmental Commission – March 24, 25 & 26 all via Zoom Webinar at 7:00pm
6. **ANJEC** – February Monthly Digest
7. **ANJEC** – Understanding NJPACT REAL: New Rules for Resilient Development and Flood Protection
8. **The Watershed Institute** – Register for the NJ Watershed Conference
9. **ANJEC** – Environmental News Digest – January 20, 2026
10. **ANJEC** - Environmental News Digest – February 16, 2026
11. **NJ DEP** – Grant Opportunities

REPORT OF PLANNING BOARD LIAISON: Tim Hartley reports JCP&L application for variance for Transmission Lines had to be re-presented due to a mess up with the recording. The application was approved. JCP&L declined out request asking for the amount and type of herbicides they are using. No response from Monmouth County Parks regarding our request on herbicides. There will be an applicator sub-contractor and they will have to dispense the applications as per the labeling. Carmela Roberts, Borough Engineer is retiring and Cameron Corini will take over.

REPORT OF COUNCIL LIAISON: C/Warnick reports that we mourn the loss of C/Lou Esakoff. Scott DeFoe has been sworn in as the new councilperson. As far as the Watershed and the Assunpink groups, we will be joining. Pine Drive – roadway improvements and Water Utility Improvements along Pine Drive we had first reading on both ordinances. After adoption

the bids will be advertised. We received three bids for the Memorial project and they are being reviewed.

Tim Hartley adds to his Planning Board report: JCP&L also declined funds to the Borough for tree replacement but did offer pollinator habitat seeding. Lawrence Mendies responds that there are 3 lots, ours which are farmers and his next-door neighbor, which that property is in Millstone. The road goes back a little bit where hunters can walk about 1000 feet before they hit my property. That little bit belongs to Millstone, it would be up to them to give consent. On the other side of the street, it belongs to K&S farm, it's a private farmer, it's up to him. Lawrence is in favor of pollinators but I am declining because the area that are proposing is the area he grows organic food in, and I will be tilling it up. If there is an area that I will not be growing in – that's fine, I'm ok with that. Whatever areas they disturb by law they have to stabilize it. Tim Hartley asks maybe the borough can get the equivalent for the borough.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

- Administrative – No Report.
- Forest Management – Hilary Wilder reports that we did not submit the annual NJUCF report, we missed the deadline. She is working to see if we can get it in even though it is late. We did get a quote of \$7000 from Kevin Scibilia. The DEP grants person states we may be able to get the fee covered, however, we need to wait for the application – there will be in-kind volunteer hours. So we have to wait.

Hilary Wilder makes a motion to ask the borough council to adopt a resolution authorizing Grant submission to NJ Urban and Community Forestry Program Stewardship Application, with a second from Kate Murphy. The motion passes unanimously

- Invasive Plant Species – No Report
- Stream Monitoring – No Report.
- Sustainable Jersey – Hilary Wilder states if we can get the CMFP done by the beginning of 2027, then we should have enough points to get Bronze re-certification. You can go to their website and see the actions and see how we can get points; they also have \$2,000; \$10,000 & \$20,000 grants available.

OLD BUSINESS:

Beech Leaf Disease – Tim Hartley reports he has had no response from the Assunpink will continue to look into but not optimistic. Michael Ticktin reports that at the council meeting they Mayor's comment wasn't clear that this was something that the treatment would work. Tim Hartley responds that there is plenty of documented evidence that it does, it's not a cure all but it is something that can help trees survive for a while. Hilary Wilder responds that when Kevin Scibilia is here hopefully Tim Hartley can meet with him and show him the Beech Trees. C/Warnick states that the Mayor and Council agreed if you put in a proposal with information they will consider it. The Woodland Inventory – the Mayor and Council is in support. Lawrence Mendies responds that the Environmental Commission voted 4 to 1 – you want to go into the forest and put a restricted use chemical – it's not a cure. You need to monitor the disease; you are getting a fresh start this spring with new baby leaves – now you will know and monitor. Hilary Wilder responds wait to see what Kevin Scibilia suggests.

Watershed: Hilary Wilder states that Robert's Engineering submitted the Phase I Watershed Inventory and also met the Tier A requirement.

NEW BUSINESS:

Since there is a vacancy in the Vice Chair Kate Murphy nominates Dave Teich to serve as the Vice Chair for 2026, with a second from Tim Hartley. Motion passes unanimously.

Hilary Wilder asks for someone to be assigned to do the End of Year Report and who is tracking our budget? Lawrence Mendies suggests it should be the Vice Chair.

Tim Hartley requests commission approve funds for puncheons this year in the amount of \$500. Tim Hartley makes the motion with a second from Hilary Wilder. Motion passes unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chairman Ticktin opens the public comment at: 7:45pm.

No Public Comment

Chairman Ticktin closes the public comment at: 7:45pm.

ADJOURNMENT: Kathleen Murphy motioned to adjourn, Lawrence Mendies offered a second. It was unanimously passed to adjourn at 7:45pm.

Maria Dellasala, Secretary