



VILLAGE OF RIDGEWOOD

131 N. MAPLE AVENUE, RIDGEWOOD, NJ

Keith Kazmark

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Residential Flood Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2026 - 4:00 pm

Via Zoom

Village Manager Keith Kazmark called the meeting of the Residential Flood Advisory Committee to order at 4:02 pm via Zoom. Members present: Christine Fleischmann, Laurie Howard, Montserrat Limon, Gerald Maurer, Julianne Ofodile, and Barbara Sacks. Village Manager Keith Kazmark and Council Liaison Siobhan Winograd were also present. David Refkin represented Green Ridgewood (joined at 4:16 pm) at the meeting.

Council member Winograd discussed the tour of flood prone areas, which occurred in October. The tour included the Saddle River area, Ho-Ho-Kus Brook area and storm water drainage issues in certain neighborhoods. Member felt the tour helped everyone see the affected areas throughout the Village.

Ms. Ofodile asked Mr. Kazmark about neighborhood near Marshall and Warren Streets. Mr. Kazmark advised that he Peter Affuso from the Engineering Division met with a group of residents about their concerns. Mr. Affuso is looking into the matter and discussed camera work in some of the drainage lines in that area of town. There is a follow up meeting with residents scheduled. Ms. Ofodile also discussed tree removal along the PSE&G right of way by Ridgewood Water as part of their main repayment job. Mr. Kazmark indicated that there is additional PSE&G work to be done there and new trees will need to be added. Discussion of the use of goats to help maintain areas including the PSE&G right of way took place.

Mr. Kazmark discussed the effort by the Village to increase public outreach on flood preparation as we get into the spring months. The link to the OEM booklet, information about how to sign up to monitor flood gauges and about flood dams will all be shared in our weekly email updates. Discussion regarding residential flood dams took place.



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Mr. Kazmark update the group on our interactions with the US Army Corps of Engineers, which have been very limited. The USACE work effort has slowed down with the new administration in Washington. Mr. Kazmark will be following up with Congressman Gottheimer's Office on this matter. Ms. Howard indicated she is seeing this as a concern in other places as well.

Mr. Kazmark update the committee on a Village flood mitigation effort slated for this year. We have over \$400,000 in flood mitigation funding available and will be focusing on shoal removal and removing hazardous trees along the Ho-Ho-Kus Brook and the Saddle River. Mr. Kazmark will invite Mr. McGrath our new Village Engineer to discuss at our next meeting.

Mr. Refkin updated the Residential Flood Advisory Committee on the multi-town grant application, which was not awarded by the NJ DEP. The towns involved had a recent meeting in which they reviewed the grant application and are working toward submitting again when the opportunity opens. He will update the committee as to the progress on this matter.

The meeting was then opened for Public Comment (3-minutes each speaker): No one from the public was in attendance.

The next meeting will be on May 20, 2026 at 4 pm, via Zoom.

The committee adjourned the meeting at 4:37 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Keith Kazmark
Village Manager