



New Jersey Pinelands Commission PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Paul Leakan

Phone: 609.894.7300

E-mail: info@njpines.state.nj.us

Judith Y. Link of Atlantic County joins New Jersey Pinelands Commission as a new gubernatorial representative

NEW LISBON, N.J. – The New Jersey Pinelands Commission welcomed Judith Y. Link of Hamilton Township, Atlantic County as she attended her first meeting as a new member of the Commission today.

Governor Jon S. Corzine nominated Link to fill one of seven gubernatorial seats on the Commission, and the state Senate approved her nomination on June 25. She took the oath of office during the Commission's meeting today.

"I would like to thank Governor Corzine for appointing me to the Pinelands Commission," Link said. "That would not have happened, however, without the support of Senator Jim Whelan, to whom I am very grateful. I hope to use the experience I gained from my 9-year tenure on the Hamilton Township Environmental Commission and to bring my master's degree in biology to bear on issues and challenges that face the Pinelands Commission."

Link has owned and operated Young's Skating Center in Mays Landing since 1995, and she has served on the Hamilton Township Environmental Commission since 2000. During her tenure on the Environmental Commission, Link has analyzed and investigated development applications that were presented to the township's Planning Board to determine their environmental and ecological impacts. She holds a bachelor's of science degree in biology from Ursinus College and a master's of science in biology (entomology) from West Chester University. She taught biology at Wissahickon High School in Ambler, Pa., for 12 years.

"As a homeowner and business person within the Pinelands, I hope to bring a well-balanced perspective to the Commission, and I look forward to working with all the Commission members, the Executive Director and staff," Link said.

"Judith Link brings a strong background in biology to the Commission, and we look forward to working with her and other Commission members as we continue to carry out a comprehensive plan that has successfully protected a million-acre region for three decades," said John C. Stokes, Executive Director of the Commission.

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The Pinelands Commission consists of 15 members: seven appointed by the Governor of New Jersey, one appointed by each of the seven Pinelands counties and one appointed by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior. Members of the Commission serve staggered, three-year terms and do not receive compensation for their service. The Commission oversees land-use, development and natural resource protection programs in the million-acre Pinelands Area, which covers portions of Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester and Ocean counties.

In addition to nominating Link, Governor Corzine nominated the Rev. Guy Campbell of Moorestown, Burlington County, Stephen V. Lee III of Chatsworth, Burlington County and Edward Lloyd of South Orange, Essex County for re-appointment as gubernatorial appointees on the Commission. The Governor also nominated Lawrence J. Niles of Bordentown, Burlington County to serve as a new gubernatorial appointee on the Commission.

The state Senate will consider approving the appointments of Campbell, Lee, Lloyd and Niles when it reconvenes in November. In the meantime, those gubernatorial appointees who were nominated for re-appointment -- Commissioners Campbell (a member since 2002), Lee (a member since 1982) and Lloyd (a member since 2002) -- will continue to serve on the Commission as "hold-over" members.

***** ATTENTION REPORTERS/EDITORS:** A high-resolution digital photo of Commissioner Link can be obtained by contacting Paul Leakan (609) 894-7300.



Judith Y. Link, pictured center, took the oath of office with her husband, Jim, by her side. The oath was administered by DAG Amy Donlon, pictured left.