

Federal appointee seated on panel

By **DAVID LEVINSKY**
STAFF WRITER

PEMBERTON TOWNSHIP — A new federal representative is serving on the New Jersey Pinelands Commission.

Joseph DiBello, a 30-year veteran of the National Park Service, took the oath of office and was seated on the 15-member commission at the start of its Dec. 14 meeting.

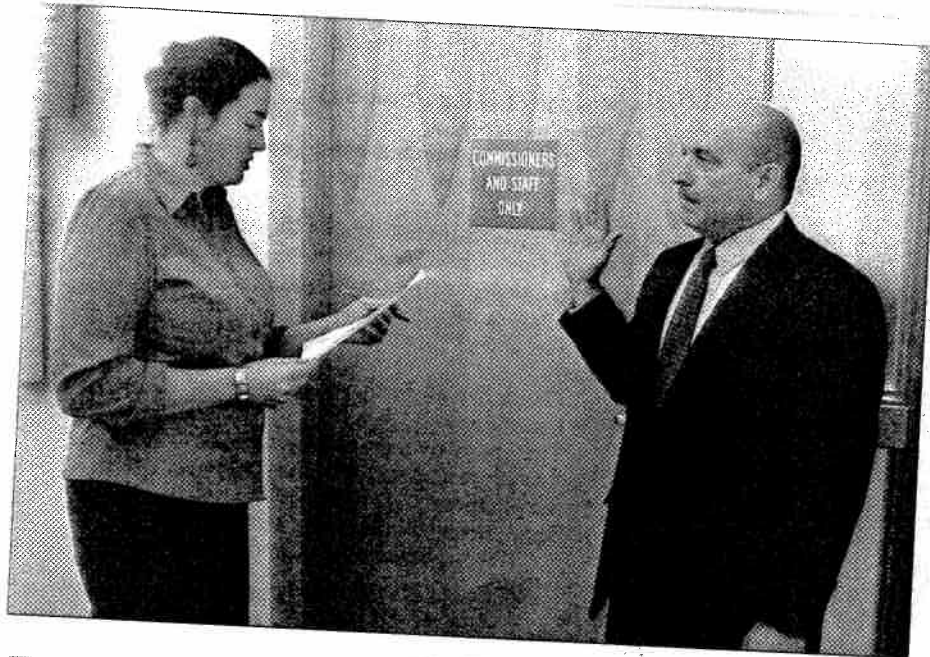
DiBello fills the federal seat vacated last summer by Richard L. Harris, who is retiring from the park service. The seat is appointed by the U.S. secretary of the Department of Interior as the department's representative on the commission, which is charged with regulating land use within the million-acre Pinelands Reserve.

The other seats on the commission are gubernatorial appointments subject to the state Senate's approval, along with appointees from each of the seven counties that are part of the Pinelands.

"I am proud to represent the federal government, U.S. Department of Interior and the National Park Service, and join in this partnership to preserve, protect and enhance the truly special natural and cultural resources of the New Jersey Pinelands," DiBello said in a statement.

A resident of Ardmore, Pa., DiBello

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Deputy Attorney General Kristen Heinzerling administers the oath of office to new Pinelands Commissioner Joseph DiBello. **CONTRIBUTED**

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began working as a planner for the U.S. Department of Interior in 1974 and has been with the National Park Service since 1981. He is serving as superintendent of the service's Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail, a 680-mile trail through nine states and Washington, D.C., that is being developed to commemorate the journey of Continental and French forces during the American Revolution.

DiBello has a bachelor's degree in social science from Drexel University and a master's in business administration from Temple University. He recently completed the Leadership for the 21st Century program at Harvard University.

"Mr. DiBello brings a wealth of relevant experience to the commission, and I'm very pleased with his appointment," said Nancy Wittenberg, the Pinelands Commission's executive director.

With DiBello, the commission has a full complement of commissioners, but the three-year terms of three of the gubernatorial appointments — Candace Ashmun, Ed Lloyd and Robert Jackson — have expired. They are serving as holdovers until they are either reappointed or replaced.

David Levinsky: 609-871-8154;
email: dlevinsky@phillyBurbs.com;
Twitter: @davidlevinsky. To subscribe,
go to phillyBurbs.com/orderBCT