

WENONAH ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

April 12th, 2006

Corrected as per May 10th, 2006 Meeting

Bob Bevilacqua called the Wenonah Environmental Commission to order at 7:37 PM in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act at the Community Center.

<u>ROLL CALL</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Bob Bevilacqua (Chair)	X	
Dave Kreck (V. Chair)		X
Scott Barnes (Sec.)	X	
Scott Birkland		X
Rich Dilks	X	
Bill Schnarr		X
Bill Schramm	X	

Associate Members Present: Bonnie Bell, Mary Ellen Bush, Frank Eggert

Minutes of March 8th meeting were approved. (Motion: Bevilacqua, Second: Barnes)

BUSINESS

- **Chairman's Report:** The \$4900 budget request is likely to be approved. Synnott permits have cost about \$1800 so far; an unexpected \$400 expenditure occurred two weeks ago. Status of Synnott grant money transfer is uncertain.

Home & School wants us to hold 4 hikes on the first four Mondays in May for their after-school program. Bob accepted on our behalf due to the short notice. Hikes will have up to 14 volunteer participants from 1st to 6th grades.

- **Technical / Education (Rich Dilks):** During the school visit for Kids' Hike on April 6th, Rich and Bob spoke with administrator Christine Smith about the possibility of holding VultureFest 2007 there. She was enthusiastic about the idea, including the separate school activity on the Friday before the festival. She reserved the multi-purpose room (capacity: 650) for March 2nd and 3rd, 2007.

For Kids' Hike, pages on vultures and beavers have been added to the booklet. Sarah Summerville of Unexpected Wildlife Refuge has volunteered to help. She should present a large-group "finale" near the beaver dam, instead of presenting separately to each group. Everyone will be dismissed from that location. To keep everyone occupied while waiting, we will have vulture singing by Rich, an Indian hut, and refreshments.

Rich had the following suggestions for Kids' Hike stations: 1) Blue ribbon (*purple loosestrife beetle release*), 2) Sycamore, 3) West Cherry St. bridge, 4) Creek (*beaver activity*), 5) Beech, 6) Clay Hill, 7) Boardwalk (*insects*), 8) Beaver dam. It was agreed to hold a planning hike on Tuesday, May 2nd.

The Spring Hike will be held on April 22nd, 1 PM, starting at Lisle Field.

Debbie Mix reported seeing the beaver from her kayak.

- **Trail Maintenance (Frank Eggert):** Frank is installing greenery on the new Dilk's Pond Trail. Some of these plants replace losses from the railroad's clear-cutting at the Maple Avenue crossing. Joe Carson is doing the physical trail construction. Debris remains to be cleaned out, but the trail is open. Trail length is about 1000 feet. Cedar signposts will be installed.
- **Public Relations (Scott Barnes):** Responded to a request from California for Bill Schramm's raccoon footprint photograph from the website.
- **Additional Comments (Frank Eggert):** Frank asked about the status of the Community Center plantings. Bill Schramm said the landscape work will be put out to bid along with the building work. Brick will replace concrete. Asphalt area will be eliminated in favor of a plaza. Frank wants to salvage any displaced plants.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:22 PM. (Motion: Schramm, Second: Bevilacqua)