

# WENONAH ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes  
January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2006

Bob Bevilacqua called the Wenonah Environmental Commission to order at 7:30 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

Minutes of December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2005 meeting were approved. (Motion: Birkland, Second: Schramm)

## REORGANIZATION

- **Officers:** Bob Bevilacqua as Chair, Dave Kreck as Vice-Chair, Scott Barnes as Secretary, Bill Schramm as Planning Board Representative (all unchanged).
- **Time and day of meetings:** Second Wednesday of month at 7:30 PM (unchanged).

## BUSINESS

- **Chairman's Report:** More beaver damage has been observed on ash trees near Mantua Creek. The Unexpected Wildlife Refuge (in Franklin Township) will be visiting Friday to analyze the situation. Beavers are probably moving downstream from Chestnut Branch. They may be a sign of improving water quality. Mary Ellen suggested linking the beaver activity to the school curriculum.

A total of 120 old (2000) trail maps remain.

- **Capital Projects:** Regarding Synnott's Pond, Dave Kreck reports that all State dredging permit applications will be finished in two weeks; the permits should be issued by March 1<sup>st</sup>. Chuck needs to do certified mailings within two weeks.

Bill Schramm has devised a landscape plan that requires 750 shrubs. At \$4.50 each, the total cost will be about \$3500. 100 cubic yards of mulch (7 truckloads) will be required to avoid erosion. The mulch must be old; the town's existing stock might work.

750 cubic yards of dirt need to be removed. For reference, the Wenonah Lake dredging last year removed 100 cu. yd., costing \$41,000 without transport. One truck holds about 15 cu. yd. of dirt.

- **Technical (Bill Schramm):** Bald eagle was spotted at I-295 and Big Timber Creek.

- **Education (Rich Dilks):** Gloucester County Nature Club (GCNC) proposes holding a Turkey Vulture Festival in early March. Jim Six (the newspaper columnist) will be the principal entertainment. Proceeds will be split evenly between WEC and GCNC. There was general agreement to move forward with planning this festival.
- **Public Relations (Scott Barnes):** Our Synnott's Pond project was mentioned in a Delaware River basin study conducted by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers last year. In addition, the WEC was listed as a potential sponsor and "major stakeholder" for future water quality improvement studies.
- **Liaison (Scott Birkland):** GCNC has requested \$100 to support BirdQuest. This was approved.

Storm drain markings required by the State could be performed by a group like the Weeblos. Medallions and adhesive would be provided to them.

- **Additional Comments:** Bonnie Bell was nominated as an Associate Member. John Forren is also interested in becoming an Associate Member.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:19 PM. (Motion: Bevilacqua, Second: Barnes)