

WENONAH ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

May 10th, 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: Mary Ellen Bush, Frank Eggert, Chuck Forsman

Minutes of the April 12th meeting were approved. (Motion: Bevilacqua, Second: Schramm)

BUSINESS

- **Chairman's Report:** On the last two Mondays, Bob and Mary Ellen led 14 to 16 children around Wenonah Lake Trail and Mantua Creek Trail for the Home & School after-school program. Help is wanted for 3:30 PM to 5 PM next Monday.

The Kids' Hike program for May 13th was reviewed. Setup will take place on Friday night at 6:30 PM. Mary Ellen said that 58 kids and 104 total people have registered. \$25 Barnes & Noble gift certificates will be given to the drawing contest and writing contest winners. The hike starts at Lisle Field at 9 AM.

WEC will have a presence at the Ice Cream Social on Monday night.

- **Trail Maintenance (Frank Eggert):** The route of the July 4th trail hike was discussed. It was decided to start at Langston Field, proceed down the Garden Trail to Stone Pond, then take the Mantua Creek Trail to the beaver area. Unlike some past public hikes, this is not a loop.

Frank cleaned up a drainage problem on Cedar Avenue and repaired the boardwalk. More greenery has been placed along the Dilk's Pond Trail. A fern garden will be established. Cedar signposts for the trail have been made.

- **Capital Projects (Bob Bevilacqua):** No news on State permits, or on the grant money transfer.
- **Planning Board (Bill Schramm):** Bob Burgess has requested a subdivision for the purpose of building a new house uphill from his present house near South Clinton Avenue. Trail access is not affected.

A coffee shop in the former Roy Duffield Realty building has been approved. There will be 3 outdoor tables and 24 indoor tables. Service will start at 6:30 AM. Stop & Shop

plans are on hold until more capital is acquired.

The Master Plan is being reexamined.

- **Technical / Education (Rich Dilks):** The Nature Club is preparing a book on natural areas of the county. Rich wants to get input on Wenonah's entry in the next 3 to 4 weeks. The Nature Club will be holding a plant sale tomorrow at EIRC at 6:30 PM.
- **Liaison (Scott Birkland):** Beer bottles and ATV tracks have been seen around Comey's Lake. The Teahouse was vandalized with graffiti, which Chuck has been unable to remove fully.

At the head of the Glen Trail, the property owner to the east may have cut down trees and disturbed conservation land.

- **Public Relations (Scott Barnes):** Three e-mail inquiries this month: from the South Jersey Collie Club (regarding dog-walking on the trails), from Annette Watts of Lebanon County, PA (asking about the history of Comey's Lake and Robert Comey), and from Joann Thomas (regarding the history of Stone Pond).

The borough newsletter deadline is May 15th. Requests were made to publicize: Kids' Hike including contest winners and VultureFest 2007. Also, Chuck wanted to warn property owners adjoining conservation lands against any dumping or disturbance.

Scott raised the subject of English Ivy in the woods and what can be done to combat it. Other park groups around the country have undertaken containment and removal programs.

- **Additional Comments (Chuck Forsman):** Three items are impeding progress on Synnott's: Soil District approval, State Department of Environmental Protection approval, and money.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:30 PM. (Motion: Bevilacqua, Second: Schramm)