

WENONAH ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

April 11th, 2007

Corrected as discussed at May 9th, 2007 Meeting

Bob Bevilacqua called the Wenonah Environmental Commission to order at 7:33 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	
Rich Dilks (V. Chair)	X	
Scott Barnes (Sec. / Planning Bd. Rep.)	X	
Scott Birkland		X
Mary Ellen Bush	X	
Dave Kreck		X
Bill Schnarr		X

Associate Members Present: Frank Eggert, Chuck Forsman

Public Guest Present: Claudia Simpson

Minutes of March 14th, 2007 meeting were approved. (Motion: Forsman, Second: Bevilacqua)

BUSINESS

- **Chairman's Report:** A project schedule for the Kids' Hike was distributed.

WEC will offer \$75 bond scholarships to two graduating 6th grade students. Criteria have been submitted to the school.

At Synnott's Pond: Three loads of dirt were dumped at Elm Street last Saturday to continue to improve equipment access. Also, a length of previously unknown sidewalk was uncovered along Woodbury-Glassboro Road. Dave Kreck has ordered the as-built survey, but it has not been completed yet. Algae in the pond have become a problem; modifications to the peninsula might be required.

Bob sent a letter to Ken Davis on March 20th regarding the memorial marker request. No response has been received.

Bob wants to extend an invitation to Clayton Environmental Commission to observe one of our meetings in the future.

Bob, Rich, and Scott Birkland removed the discarded drum from Mantua Creek.

- **Legal (Chuck Forsman):** There has been a surge in vandalism around town, including at Comey's Lake and the Teahouse. Bob proposed a path from Lenape Trail to the Teahouse to help the police reach the Teahouse faster. There is an existing 20-foot drainage easement that requires only grading; no trees are in the way. The proposal was received favorably; Council will be notified of WEC's intentions. Also, Council will be asked if a permit is required for groups to congregate at the Teahouse.

The handsome new trail bridge at Synnott's Pond Dam was built by John Schad. WEC

should send a letter of commendation to him and to Council.

Regarding Comey's Lake duckweed: \$561 worth of fish (30 koi and 30 Israeli carp) will be delivered Monday. The Simpsons paid for the fish.

Regarding town water usage: 68 million gallons were consumed last year. The legal limit on the wells is 70 million gallons. Absent any changes at the greenhouse, conservation is the only choice that will prevent a State order to connect to New Jersey American Water.

- **Trail Maintenance (Frank Eggert):** Frank is donating wildflower seeds, which will be sown at Synnott's. A work party was held at Synnott's on Monday night to remove invasive multiflora rose. The order of 100 trees (some of which are earmarked for Synnott's) will be arriving in about two weeks. A red cedar trail sign will be installed at the Elm Street entrance of Synnott's.
- **Planning Board (Scott Barnes):** The borough applied for and will be granted a side yard setback variance for the new Public Works Building at Maple Avenue and the railroad. The side in question is the railroad side, not the Wenonah Lake side.
- **Education (Rich Dilks):** Everyone is encouraged to remove garlic mustard wherever found.

WEC has 25 copies of the Nature Club's "Natural Place of Gloucester County" book. Wholesale price was \$8; retail price is \$12. On a related subject, new trail maps are planned to be printed by the end of the year.

The Spring Hike will start at Lisle Field, proceeding to Hanisey's Landing and the bridge. It will then go down the Mantua Creek Trail as far as the Glen Trail.

A Vulture Festival planning dinner will be held on Monday the 16th at 6 PM at Terra Nova Restaurant.

Dr. Emile DeVito of the New Jersey Conservation Foundation will not be able to visit our conservation area as planned. However, he will be having dinner with Bob and Rich tomorrow evening.

There will be a Nature Club field trip to Wenonah on Saturday, May 19th.

Rich gave one class to the Wenonah Enrichment Cluster Program; Brian gave one; Bob Baruzzi gave one. On May 8th, from 2:15 to 3:15, a new program will be held at Wenonah Lake with Ms. Christine of the local Soil Conservation District.

MEETING ADJOURNED (Motion: Forsman, Second: Dilks)