

WENONAH ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

October 13, 2010

Rich Dilks called the Wenonah Environmental Commission to order at 7:31 PM in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act at the Community Center.

<u>ROLL CALL</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Rich Dilks (Chair)	X	
Bob Bevilacqua (V. Chair)	X	
Scott Barnes (Sec. / Planning Bd. Rep.)	X	
Scott Birkland	X	
Dave Kreck	X	
Tommy Lombardo	X	
Chris Newman		X

Associate Members Present: Mary Ellen Bush, Frank Eggert, Chuck Forsman

Public Guest Present: Jack Morris

Minutes of the September 8th meeting were approved (Motion: Lombardo, Second: Bevilacqua, AIF)

BUSINESS

- **Public Comment (Jack Morris):** Mr. Morris, the new Scoutmaster of Troop 50, is looking for projects for his troop. Bob suggested stone placement in the channels at Synnott's Pond. Dave suggested checking stormwater inlets for proper marking. Mr. Morris also wants WEC to lead the troop on a plant tour; Rich offered to coordinate that (although the season isn't ideal) or a winter tree tour.
- **Chairman's Report:** On the "Sustainable New Jersey" project, the Natural Resource Inventory was not accepted, meaning Wenonah cannot be certified at this time. There is still time to add to our submissions by a December 31st deadline. The Project Porchlight CFL distribution effort last month was a success.

No WEC members participated in the Canoe & Kayak trip last Saturday due to a misunderstanding.

On the Stone Pool Garden project, Rich met with Rock Products about the wall. They recommended stone types that are less uniform and more expensive than originally planned. New price is \$205 per pallet with free delivery. Crushed stone for the base is available in bags. After discussion, it was decided to arrange for delivery ASAP.

The 2011 calendar was discussed. Optimal Moonlight Hike date will be on January 9, 2012. The Spring Hike and Kayak Trip are being cancelled due to low participation.

Mantua Creek Trail is currently impassable due to dislocation of the boardwalk bridge near Willow Street.

The scheduled November 6 work party will be held at Synnott's Pond to remove fallen trees (which also damaged the bridge over the dam). If enough people come, a second group can go to Mantua Creek to repair the boardwalk bridge.

Lake lowering permits are in effect for Wenonah Lake and Comey's Lake now through February 15. At Comey's, Bob proposes to bring a backhoe during January to remove silt and drag out two trees.

Friends of Maple Ridge collected 31 pages of petition signatures and handed out lawn signs at the Harvest Craft Fair and Mantua Community Day. Lawn signs are starting to raise community interest. A Philadelphia Inquirer story ran late last month.

For the next (2011) Vulture Festival, plans are to cancel the evening event due to declining interest and volunteer burnout. This will severely limit the festival's fundraising potential.

Bob has started a foundation for one of the missing Stewart Estate plaques.

Plants for the Elm Street pump station should be ordered at the same time as the Stone Pool plants. Dave's firm will donate \$150 of the cost.

Rich surveyed the purple loosestrife situation again this summer. There is no big change from last year. Some beetle damage is still visible.

- **Capital Projects (Dave Kreck):** The borough's retaining wall on West Poplar is finished. West Poplar and South Marion paving will be finished soon, weather permitting. Public Works will handle the mechanics of lowering Wenonah Lake; we (WEC) need to handle Comey's Lake.
- **Liaison (Scott Birkland):** The Comey's Lake fountain will be taken out in the next week or so. Scott likely will be transferred to Washington, D.C. early next year, so we should be looking for a replacement.

MEETING ADJOURNED (Motion: Bevilacqua, Second: Kreck, AIF)