

WENONAH ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

March 13, 2013

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	
Bill Klaus	X	
Dave Kreck	X	
Tommy Lombardo (Mayor)	X	
Chris Newman	X	

Associate Member Present: Frank Eggert

Minutes of the February 13th meeting were approved. (Motion: Kreck, Second: Bevilacqua, AIF)

PUBLIC COMMENT

- **Jack Lerner:** Mr. Lerner may want to change the proposed Hanisey's Landing dock (see *January minutes*) to a rock-filled gabion mat. Dave thought the gabion was unnecessary. However, the dock should be parallel to the creek to avoid damage from heavy water flow under the bridge. Mr. Lerner will change his plan accordingly.

BUSINESS

- **Chairman's Report:** Regarding the Mantua Creek beaver dam: the remaining parts of the leveling device should remain on-site for one month. If the beavers come back, we will reinstall the device. After discussion, it was agreed to reimburse Unexpected Wildlife Refuge for the cost of the parts at approximately \$600. (Motion: Kreck, Second: Bevilacqua, AIF)

The \$100 check was issued for BirdQuest (see *February minutes*).

The unauthorized memorial plaque near the Tea House has been removed and will be returned to the family (see *February minutes*).

Dave inspected the Shawnee Drive canyon and found that the gabion baskets are working, but there is still significant erosion downhill. More planning is required before we schedule any further work.

For the Saturday work party, we will remove debris from the north channel of Mantua Creek near West Cedar Street starting at 9 AM. Waders, hand saws, axes, and rope would be useful tools.

There will be a Wenonah Park work party on Saturday, 4/13. WEC will forward an announcement on our email distribution list when available.

National Trails Day is on June 1. We are not planning anything formal, unless the Eldridge Trail bridge happens to be ready to dedicate then.

John and Jeanne Nickelson of Deptford Township alerted us to a wetlands survey taking place around Pelkington Lake. Dave checked with the Deptford Planning Board's engineer; nothing has been filed at the township level yet.

Regarding Maple Ridge: there will be an April 3rd meeting of the Deptford Planning Board where they will consider the affordable housing subdivision plan. Friends of Maple Ridge is encouraging the public to attend this meeting to show their support.

- **Capital Projects (Bob Bevilacqua):** During April and May we will get going on the Eldridge Trail bridge project.
- **Trail Maintenance (Frank Eggert):** The Marge Lentz property on West Willow could be sold with only an 18-year deed restriction against development rather than a permanent restriction. Dave believes it would be impractical for a new owner to construct the paper streets up to grade, as would be required to build new houses. He will help Frank check the property boundaries on Saturday.

Frank wondered about ordering white pine seedlings this year. Given that the survival rate has been almost zero for the last couple of years, it was agreed to not plant any new ones this year.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:45 PM. (Motion: Newman, Second: Lombardo, AIF)