

WENONAH ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

June 12, 2013

Rich Dilks called the Wenonah Environmental Commission to order at 7:44 PM in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act at the Wenonah Lake Pavilion.

<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 Members Present: Frank Eggert, Chuck Forsman

Minutes of the May 8th meeting were approved. (Motion: Bevilacqua, Second: Newman, AIF)

PUBLIC COMMENT

- **Andrea Christman (Food & Water Watch):** Ms. Christman outlined the goals of her organization: safe, accessible, and sustainably produced food and water. She circulated a petition in support of a June 20th veto override vote in the state legislature regarding a fracking ban. A new anti-fracking movie "Gasland 2" is coming soon. Her organization is also against genetically-modified organisms (GMOs).

BUSINESS

- **Chairman's Report:** Three separate duckweed and algae control proposals from Princeton Hydro were reviewed: one each for Dilks Pond (\$1,615.90), Comey's Lake (\$2,825.00), and Synnott's Pond (\$1,220.00). Algicide and pesticide chemicals would be applied. It was decided to address Dilks Pond only this season and see what happens. (Motion: Newman, Second: Bevilacqua, AIF)

On Eldridge Trail: work from Pine Street down to the bridge remains to be done. A wet spot on the trail nearby also needs work. Frank says leftover deck boards need to be moved back to the borough maintenance yard. Bob will transport them if someone will move them to the street.

The June 8th Eldridge Trail work party involving the Gateway Football Team was successful. The trail section between the two small bridges now has stone and trail rails.

The remaining Manuta Creek leveling device materials need to be moved from John Mullens' yard to the borough maintenance yard. Rich will contact Tommy.

Rich has received no confirmation regarding the Student Environmental Awards for this year.

The Gloucester County Nature Club is offering to hold another Mad Hatter's Tree Party this fall with WEC assistance. After discussion, it was agreed to participate in the event.

A Wenonah Lake trail sign just north of the main trailhead was found to be missing in early May. Frank was made aware of the situation and replaced the sign yesterday.

Bob reported that the Comey's Lake fountain motor was found to be dead. The manufacturer will diagnose it and charge \$600 to \$1,500 for the repair.

Frank will brush all of the trails for July 4th, with the Mantua Creek Trail (path of the hike) coming last. There are excess 4x4 boards on the Monongahela Brook Trail; Frank needs assistance to remove them.

The Jack Lerner project for Hanisey's Landing is on hold because the scoutmaster has not completed the paperwork properly, according to Frank.

- **Capital Projects (Bob Bevilacqua):** Bob will get a price for the hay bales needed to combat erosion near Shawnee Drive.
- **Liaison (Scott Barnes):** Scott attended a May 11th ANJEC workshop covering "complete streets" (streets designed for bike/pedestrian users, not just cars) and a regional trail network. A Harrison Township planner spoke about that municipality's new complete streets plan. An NJDOT official explained how municipalities can apply for a planning assistance grant for a complete streets plan. Finally, a representative of the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia introduced "The Circuit", a plan to create a regional network of multi-use trails. (See *June 2012 minutes*.)

Of interest to Wenonah: a multi-use trail has been proposed to run alongside the Glassboro-Camden Line (GCL) passenger tracks. It is just a vision; there is no funding and it is not part of the ongoing GCL environmental impact study. Advocates are needed to speak out for funding at public meetings.

Unrelated to the workshop: GCL trains are projected to pass though as often as every 7-1/2 to 15 minutes. Standard practice is that each train will need to blow its horn for each of the three grade crossings in town. To avoid this noise pollution, federal regulations provide for creation of a Quiet Zone if grade crossing equipment is constructed to a higher (and more expensive) standard. Wenonah residents should speak out in favor of these improvements during the environmental impact process.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:37 PM. (Motion: Bevilacqua, Second: Newman, AIF)