

WENONAH ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

March 8th, 2006

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	
Dave Kreck (V. Chair)		X
Scott Barnes (Sec.)	X	
Scott Birkland		X
Rich Dilks	X	
Bill Schnarr		X
Bill Schramm		X

Associate Members Present: Bonnie Bell, Mary Ellen Bush, Frank Eggert (*all acting as Members to satisfy quorum*)

Minutes of February 8th meeting were approved. (Motion: Bevilacqua, Second: Dilks)

BUSINESS

- **Chairman's Report:** There is no news on the borough budget request yet. Scott reported that the wallet of a Deptford resident was recovered during last Saturday's roadside trash pickup; the \$20 finder's fee is being donated to Friends of Wenonah Trails.

It is time for Kids' Hike planning. Bob, Mary Ellen, and Rich will go to the school on 4/17 or 4/18. Vulture Festival funds will be used to help produce the booklet. Vulture information will be added to the booklet. Perhaps canoes could be used to return kids from Mullens' to Hayes Avenue, instead of having them just hike back the same trail. Frank expressed concern that the kids might be too young for such a venture. Scott will check the tide tables to see if the water would be high enough.

- **Capital Projects:** Permit applications were hand-delivered to the State last week. Costs are being fine-tuned. Arrangements are being made to receive the grant monies.
- **Technical / Education (Rich Dilks):** VultureFest was a great success. One vulture devotee felt it was better than the Hinckley, Ohio festival. The Gloucester County Nature Club (GCNC) projects a \$1000 to \$1400 profit. The GCNC Executive Committee unanimously passed a motion to hold a 2007 Vulture Festival with the WEC.

A vulture and nature educational program needs to be developed. Kids' Hike is an obvious, existing outlet. Perhaps a school assembly could be held in the fall. Bob reported that he ordered 50 GCNC bird "flash cards" at \$3 each for the Kids' Hike attendees.

Bob proposed a motion that the WEC support the 2007 festival; all were in favor. Rich (on behalf of both GCNC and WEC) will be sending a letter of thanks to the borough. Letter of appreciation should be sent to Jim Six also.

Regarding the purple loosestrife: the State expert will revisit in late spring to confirm that the beetles have wintered over as expected.

- **Public Relations (Scott Barnes):** Several people involved with Home & School have suggested that WEC utilize the “Wednesday packet” that is sent home with all children. Also, the VultureFest administrative e-mail list will remain open indefinitely for further communication.
- **Trail Maintenance (Frank Eggert):** Flowers in the Synnott’s Pond dig area should be transplanted.
- **Additional Comments (Scott Barnes):** Scott asked about the questionable bridge being constructed across Breakback Run by a Deptford resident. Bob replied that the Wenonah building inspector had visited the site. The bridge apparently ends at the resident’s property line. The inspector advised the resident not to extend the bridge any farther.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:20 PM. (Motion: Barnes, Second: Dilks)