

WENONAH ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

January 10th, 2007

On April 12, 2007, corrected Bill Schnarr's name in Roll Call, as indicated.

Bob Bevilacqua 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>
Bob Bevilacqua (Chair)	X	
Dave Kreck (V. Chair)	X	
Scott Barnes (Sec.)	X	
Scott Birkland	X	
Mary Ellen Bush		X
Rich Dilks	X	
Bill Schramm Schnarr		X

Associate Members Present: Frank Eggert, Chuck Forsman, Brian Hayes, Paula Hayes

Minutes of December 13th, 2006 meeting were approved. (Motion: Bevilacqua, Second: Barnes)

REORGANIZATION

- **Officers:** Bob Bevilacqua as Chair, Rich Dilks as Vice-Chair, Scott Barnes as Secretary and Planning Board Representative.
- **Time and day of meetings:** Second Wednesday of month at 7:30 PM (unchanged).
- All reorganization matters approved on a voice vote. (Motion: Kreck, Second: Birkland)

BUSINESS

- **Chairman's Report:** Bob made a 2006 summary report to Council at their reorganization meeting. Contributions were received: \$1000 from the Estate of Warren Davis, and \$500 from Sean Manns. Friends of Wenonah Trails now has \$8500. Cumberland County will be holding their Eagle Festival (formerly Raptor Festival) on February 3rd.
- **Capital Projects (Dave Kreck):** DEP may require an "as-built" survey for Synnott's Pond; approximate cost would be \$1200. The surveyor should also check the boundaries, as the town never had a formal deed. Another remaining task is grant closeout paperwork, where a full accounting must be provided.

Storm water inlet labeling should be fully complete on all 160 inlets this year. The planned labeling last fall did not occur due to a communication breakdown between the County and scouting organizations.

- **Education (Rich Dilks):** Vulture Festival street banner was ordered at a cost of \$690; will be hung in about two weeks. Publicity is coming in the New Jersey Monthly magazine (this month) and Arts Scene New Jersey magazine (unknown date). A festival meeting is planned for January 17th at 7 PM at the school, focusing on program planning, decorations, and food. 70 tickets have been sold.

Several festival organizers (Rich, Bob, Erik & Kris Mollenhauer) met with Wenonah School officials and teachers earlier today. An environmental education program for grades 3 to 6 is planned. The festival will donate \$600 toward this program. In the future, teacher grants may be made from festival profits.

The WEC received an e-mail in late December from Barbara Schultes of North West Avenue concerning damage on her roof which she attributes to vultures. Rich will write a response letter. In general, it was felt vultures were not responsible for the damage; the roof is in poor shape all over, not just at the peak where vultures generally land. To repel vultures, the Turkey Vulture Society recommends motion-activated sprinklers, although these are not suitable in winter. An alternative is spikes to stop roosting.

Paula had e-mailed a link to a summer environmental camp program for which we might offer a 6th grade scholarship. At \$450, this was the least expensive of the camps. We have no further information on the fire company's award criteria. Scott Barnes expressed concern that the award amount might be too large compared to the fire company's \$50 bond. There will be further discussion next month.

- **Liaison (Scott Birkland):** Three contributions were proposed: \$100 to the Gloucester County Nature Club for BirdQuest, \$20 to Unexpected Wildlife Refuge for a membership, and \$20 to Old Pine Farm for a membership. The latter two would come from Friends of Wenonah Trails, the former would come from town funds when approved. (Motion: Bevilacqua, Second: Kreck, Approved)
- **Public Relations (Scott Barnes):** New Internet domain has been acquired and set up. Members have been given a new internal communication mailing list to replace the old "@verizon.net" address. There is also a new "inbox@" public mailbox for general business. To help generate a new publicity e-mail list, Scott will be meeting with Chuck to clean up the current lists.
- **Trail Maintenance:** Moonlight Hike night was overcast and rainy; 5 people decided to hike anyway.
- **Additional Comments (Chuck Forsman):** For Comey's Lake duckweed, fish can be ordered in March for April delivery. A custom-designed pump is available for \$300; additional plumber labor would be required to set up perforated PVC underwater. This pump would run only in the warm months, perhaps on a timer. There would be no fountain as previously contemplated. The Simpsons have agreed in principle to pay for these improvements as well as the electricity for the pump.
- **Additional Comments (Brian Hayes):** All-terrain Vehicles have been observed at Wenonah Lake again.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:36 PM. (Motion: Kreck, Second: Dilks)