

WENONAH ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

June 11th, 2008

Rich Dilks called the Wenonah Environmental Commission to order at 7:35 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	
Scott Birkland	X	
Mary Ellen Bush	X	
Dave Kreck		X
Bill Schnarr		X

Minutes of the May 14th meeting were approved. (Motion: Birkland, Second: Bevilacqua, Approved AIF)

BUSINESS

- **Public Comment (Rollie Malfitano):** Mr. Malfitano requested an approval letter for his Eagle Scout Project on WEC letterhead. Rich will compose and mail this letter.
- **Public Comment (Sam Morris):** Mr. Morris proposes to make several landscaping improvements at Wenonah Lake for his Eagle Scout project. Bob is helping him plan the construction of a bridge at the pond within the fenced-in area. About \$800 of lumber is required, of which \$450 has been covered by other donations. He wants WEC to help close the funding gap. On a voice vote, the WEC approved the expenditure of up to \$350 from the Friends of Wenonah Trails account to ensure this project moves forward. (Motion: Bevilacqua, Second: Bush, Approved AIF.)
- **Public Comments (Glen Green):** Mr. Green, a resident of Pine Acres in Deptford, reported that a beech tree is in a precarious position at Clay Hill. He recommends use of a 1/4" cable and U-clamps to lash this tree to another, stronger tree.

He also reported continuing encampments at Boy Scout Island. He feels the Deptford and Wenonah police departments are uninterested in patrolling that area.

- **Chairman's Report:** Rich will present the two 6th grade Environmental Awards at 6 PM on June 20th.

Rich inquired about the necessity for a Glen Trail work party in advance of the July 4th hike. Frank said there was one leaning tree, but nothing more serious.

WEC will not participate in the Kids' Kamp this year, but will reevaluate the situation next year.

Bob and Chuck placed boards and stepping stones as an interim solution to improve the Camels Back Run crossing just north of the Tea House.

Frank has completed the new northwest bridge at Synnott's Pond. There was a debate over whether to hold additional work parties to demolish the island. Lots of manpower would be needed. The Fire Company could help, but not on Tuesday nights. The conclusion was to hold one more big work party on the evening of June 18th. If that attempt fails, Bob will attempt to bring in a long-reach excavator this fall.

Scott Barnes noticed a crack in the east wall of Synnott's Pond Dam that does not appear in 2004-2005 pictures. Chuck and Bob are aware of the situation, but do not feel it is a high priority. The likely solution is to drill holes, place a metal plate, then backfill with cement.

The second Sonar treatment at Comey's Lake was done on June 3rd. Duckweed is turning white. Chuck said that Claudia Simpson still supports financing an aerator or a fountain. Scott Birkland suggested that a nighttime-only fountain would allow us to avoid an unnatural appearance during the daytime.

Diana Salomone's fallen tree (see *May*) has not been taken care of by Public Works, as they have been advised that JIF insurance will not cover their work in this situation. Bob wants to do the removal himself, rather than having the borough bring in a contractor.

The Gloucester County Nature Club wants to change their meeting site to Wenonah later this year. The current EIRC site is becoming unavailable. Rich will propose use of either the courtroom or the community center.

- **Capital Projects (Bob Bevilacqua):** Bob's participation in the Community Clean-up Day in May netted \$100 for WEC, which will go into Friends of Wenonah Trails.
- **Council/Legal (Chuck Forsman):** Chuck reported that the water in Synnott's Pond and Comey's Lake is clean.

Regarding Maple Ridge, Steve Sweeney is "100% behind" the project. Total government funding will probably cover 75% of the appraised value, once that value is known. "Major, major" fundraising will be needed. Chuck wants to put together a full-page newspaper ad.

- **Trail Maintenance (Frank Eggert):** Frank removed trees from Dilks' Pond and the Wenonah Lake Bypass Trail.
- **Public Comment (Brenda Birkland):** Ms. Birkland suggested a borough newsletter article on mosquito and deer tick control in backyards.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:30 PM (Motion: Birkland, Second: Bevilacqua)