

# WENONAH ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes  
October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Rich Dilks called the Wenonah Environmental Commission to order at 7:32 PM in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act at the Municipal Building.

<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	
Chris Newman	X	

Public Guests Present: Joe Berg and Robert Berg  
Minutes of the September 9<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved. (Motion: Bevilacqua, Second: Dilks, AIF)

## BUSINESS

- **Public Comment (Joe Berg):** For his Eagle Scout project, Mr. Berg proposed to create one or more plexiglass-covered signs pointing out the wildlife around Wenonah Lake. Several requirements were brought out during discussion: the location must be visible to deter vandalism, weatherproof plywood must be used, and a concrete base is needed for the legs. Other possible locations mentioned were Comey's Lake and Wenonah Park. The next step in the process is project approval from the Boy Scouts organization.
- **Chairman's Report:** There was further discussion on design concepts for the Garden Trail (*see September*). Plan 'B' was the best of the three. Mulch is needed to better define the new path. Rich will now contact the Women's Club for their input.

DRPA/PATCO light rail expansion was discussed. For us, the most important aspect is the effect on the trees along the tracks, including the unique shingle oaks. Perhaps we will need to build a fence to separate our plantings in some areas.

6 people in 5 boats participated in the October 10<sup>th</sup> canoe & kayak event. The trip extended to the Turnpike and back.

At Synnott's Pond, we should delay landscaping of the Elm Street entrance until all pump work is complete. Dave's company will donate plantings for the immediate pump area, probably tall and thin arborvitae. Rich noted that the dam is malfunctioning, and that Mr. Pritchard's tree contractors may have done work well away from the lake.

On the WEC municipal budget, it was suggested to prepay some of the Garden Trail stone wall expenses. Also, we could purchase a canoe to help maintain Comey's Lake.

Bob presented more detailed estimates for the Recreational Trails Program grant application (*see September*). Labor and material total \$22,630, while professional services total \$1,600. Dave noted that this project must be described as a repair effort to avoid permitting problems.

Rich noted a serious erosion problem developing near 3 Shawnee Drive on the Indian Trail.

The Vulture Festival VEE Grant Committee held a meeting on October 13<sup>th</sup>. It was proposed to modify the grant this year to support schools' participation in a collaborative writing project called *Voices from the Land* sponsored by the local Educational Information and Resource Center. A maximum of \$1,000 would be awarded, with a maximum of \$200 going to any one school. The grant would be available to all Gloucester County K-12 schools, public and private. Another meeting will be held in November to finalize details.

- **Capital Projects (Dave Kreck):** A scour hole has formed at the end of West Poplar. The borough is working on the problem.
- **Liaison (Scott Birkland):** The Comey's Lake fountain will be removed for the season during the second weekend of November.

Scott caught a landscaping contractor dumping material in the conservation area at the end of East Willow. The police intervened in the situation, and the material was later removed.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:58 PM (Motion: Newman, Second: Birkland, AIF)