

# WENONAH ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

## Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2012

Rich Dilks called the Wenonah Environmental Commission to order at 7:42 PM in accordance with the Open Public Meeting Act at Wenonah Borough Hall.

<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 March 14<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved. (Motion: Kreck, Second: Newman, AIF)

### BUSINESS

- **Chairman's Report:** In recent weeks, three trail signs, the Stone Pool Garden memorial plaque, the Stone Pool wall, and parts of the Clay Hill improvements were vandalized. Bob will remove the vandalized trail signs on Saturday and also put concrete joints in the Stone Pool wall. Frank is working on replacement plaques (duplicates) for Stone Pool. We will keep the police informed. Scott will send out a notice on the email list. Are the \$100 wildlife cameras legal to place in the woods? Ask Council.

Regarding the Library Rain Garden: how should material costs be apportioned between WEC and the Library? Total will be less than \$300. Find out if Bill Exley is willing to donate some materials. On a voice vote, it was agreed to split any costs 50/50 with the Library. (Motion: Bevilacqua, Second: Newman, AIF.) Planting dates will likely be May 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM to 2 PM. Fifth grade classes will be involved.

Christy Chandler of Wenonah Home & School suggested some titles for the proposed book donation (*see March minutes*) totaling approximately \$100. All have a science- or nature-related theme. On a voice vote, it was agreed to purchase and donate the requested books. (Motion: Kreck, Second: Barnes, AIF.) The books should be donated in some public way, so we can get a photo opportunity and some publicity.

Rich was contacted by the resident at 201 South Princeton about two dead trees in the conservation area behind their property. A tree contractor marked each with a big red "X" but only one of them appeared to be dead. The resident is unhappy that WEC will not be immediately removing them; they will be writing the Borough. Chris mentioned that NJ law assigns liability only if the tree owner was notified of a dangerous tree. Dave said that this issue should be left to Council.

Rich previously distributed Bob's email about an organic bacterial treatment for duckweed and algae at Comey's Lake. Chuck contacted the fish farm we have used in the past; they have not had good experience with organic products. Instead, they proposed goldfish (hopefully sterile?) that will live for 10 years: 100 fish at \$0.75 each.

This issue was tabled until we can get more opinions about organic solutions versus goldfish.

Property lines have been verified for Barbara and Kurt Jennings (Block 36, Lot 5). A hazardous tree they pointed out near Mantua Ave. has been referred to Atlantic City Electric.

Garden Trail Bridge plantings have been put off until fall.

The survey for the Eldridge Trail bridge replacement has been done. Dave and Bob will work together on the bridge design. An excavator will be required to place the I-beams.

Bob is collecting boards to address wet spots on the Mantua Creek Trail. A future work party with lots of people will be needed.

Bob is also working on the steps behind the Tea House.

- **Liaison (Scott Barnes):** The Planning Board has formally approved the Green Acres Recreation & Open Space Inventory (*see March minutes*).

Scott removed one tire from the Monongahela Loop Trail area. Another tire remains impaled on a log beneath the Upper Bridge on the Eldridge Trail. Two large truck-type tires are lying near Mantua Creek in the vicinity of the trestle.

- **Capital Projects (Dave Kreck):** The Lenape Pump Station replacement will be starting as soon as next week. Dave will notify Scott so the public can be notified about the trail closure.

Bob reminded all that the Comey's Lake fountain needs to be reinstalled.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:59 PM. (Motion: Kreck, Second: Bevilacqua, AIF)