

Whippany River Watershed *Action* Committee

Whippany River Watershed Management Group

Minutes of the December 7, 2005 Meeting

Attendance:

- HANK SAWOSKI—MORRIS PLAINS
- BRIAN MARSHALL—MOUNTAIN LAKES
- ART VESPIGNANI—PARSIPPANY
- JANIS SLUTSKY—MENDHAM BOROUGH
- GEORGE VANORDEN, HANOVER TOWNSHIP, MADISON
- AMY DIBARTOLO—EAST HANOVER
- ROBERT CONLEY—MADISON
- DONNA BANGIOLA—MORRISTOWN
- RALPH RHODES—MENDHAM TOWNSHIP
- WILLIAM HUTCHINSON—MADISON
- MARY ANNA HOLDEN—MADISON
- PAT RECTOR—NJDEP
- DAVE HELMER—MORRIS COUNTY PARKS COMMISSION
- HERB BERMAN-TROUT UNLIMITED
- KRIS MCMORLAND—MORRIS COUNTY MOSQUITO COMMISSION
- SAMANTHA ROTHMAN, MORRISTOWN ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
- LOUISE JENSEN—FACILITATOR
- DEBORAH MCCOMBER—ADMINISTRATOR

Absent Municipalities:

- DENVILLE
- FLORHAM PARK

Art Vespignani, Vice-Chair, convened Whippany Watershed Management Group meeting at 6:05pm.

- On January 12, 2006, there will be a technical meeting with NJDEP in Trenton on the Troy Brook project; Louise and Art will attend.
- A stakeholders meeting will follow.
- The meeting was adjourned at 6:07pm.

Whippany River Watershed Action Committee meeting was opened at 6:07pm. Sal Iannaccone had a medical emergency and could not attend this meeting. Art Vespignani will chair the meeting.

Speakers—*Kristian McMorland and Bill Carlot from the Morris County Mosquito Commission*

Minutes of November 2005 meeting—*Deborah McComber*. Minutes were unanimously approved.

Nominating Committee—*Art Vespignani*

- The committee offers a slate of officers and members of the Executive Committee: Sal Iannaccone, Chair; Art Vespignani, Vice-Chair; Amy DiBartolo, Treasurer; Brian Marshall, Member At Large.
- We have two vacancies, including a secretary. Contact Art Vespignani if you have a nomination.
- The slate was approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report—Amy DiBartolo

- The WRWAC account has a balance of \$44,173 with \$41,000 available for spending.
- Amy presented a budget for 2006. It was approved unanimously.
- The Executive Committee recommends a certified audit, although it is not necessitated by law.
- We have seed money available for project proposals.
- William Hutchinson recommended a “retained earnings” amendment to the budget.
- As part of the October workshop, several government employees were provided Continuing Ed units; we hope to have more people opt for educational credit at future workshops.

Executive Committee Meeting—Deborah McComber

- Dues and membership letters for 2006 will be sent to Whippany Watershed towns this month.
- The freeholders have included the same amount of funding for WRWAC as last year within the county 2006 budget proposal. Louise will send a letter to the county administrator asking to meet with the freeholders to bring them up to date on our activities.

Speaker—George VanOrden on the Lakes Study

Facilitator Report—Louise Jensen

- There will be a site tour of the proposed Willow Hall Development near Speedwell Lake by the Morristown Environmental Commission, led by Samantha Rothman, on December 10, 2005 at 10am. Louise will attend.
- ANJEC has requested applications for their Smart Growth Planning Assistance Grant, funded by the Dodge Foundation. RFPs will be distributed to towns mid-January 2006. Please talk to your towns about potential projects.
- There is an ANJEE annual environmental education conference on January 5-7, 2006. Contact Louise for details.
- At the February 1, 2006 meeting, Louise has booked speakers from Morris Township (Jim Slate) and Princeton Hydro (*Stephen Souza*) to speak on flooding in Morristown and the potential for a *restoration* project at the *reservoir* on Western Avenue.
- We are planning a canoe trip in Spring 2006.
- George VanOrden is planning a half-day conference this spring concerning the Lakes Study results.
- The November hike along Patriots Path was a great success.

New Business

- Pat Rector from the NJDEP noted that Americorp is looking to coordinate with WRWAC on education and outreach programs.
- Amy DiBartolo noted that on January 18, 2006, there will be a WRWAC Outreach and Education planning meeting. All are invited, including a representative from NJDEP.
- Dave Helmer noted that the Parks Commission is planning a rehabilitation project for Patriots Path at the Cargill Bridge.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Deborah McComber, Administrator