

Whippany River Watershed *Action* Committee

Whippany River Watershed Management Group

Minutes of the October 4, 2006 Meeting

Attendance:

- SAL IANNACCONE—HANOVER TOWNSHIP
- JANIS SLUTSKY—MENDHAM BORO
- STAN WITCZAK—MENDHAM BORO
- HANK SAWOSKI—MORRIS PLAINS
- BOB STRECHAY—PARSIPPANY
- RALPH RHODES—MENDHAM TOWNSHIP
- RICH TAUBALD—GENERAL PUBLIC
- DONNA BANGIOLA—POCAHONTAS LAKE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
- LOUISE JENSEN—FACILITATOR
- DEBORAH MCCOMBER—ADMINISTRATOR
- JON WRIGHT—TROUT UNLIMITED
- JEFF KURT—PRESIDENT TROUT UNLIMITED
- JENNIFER COFFEY, DIRECTOR OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT, STONYBROOK-MILLSTONE

Absent Municipalities:

- DENVILLE
- FLORHAM PARK
- MADISON
- EAST HANOVER
- MOUNTAIN LAKES
- MORRISTOWN
- MORRIS TOWNSHIP

Whippany River Watershed Management Group public meeting was opened at 6:11pm by Sal Iannaccone, Chair. Louise Jensen noted that there will be a new date set for the Troy Brook Regional Planning project meeting with stakeholders on Milestone 4 since the draft is not yet completed. The meeting on October 12 has been cancelled. There was no public comment. The meeting ended at 6:12pm.

Sal Iannaccone, Chair, convened the WRWAC meeting at 6:12pm. He introduced the speaker, Jennifer Coffey, Director of Watershed Management at Stonybrook-Millstone

- Stonybrook-Millstone is a nonprofit agency that is a resource for 26 towns in the watershed area of Central NJ. Stonybrook is located in Hopewell.
- Ms. Coffey spoke on the Municipal Assessment Program available to their towns in order to deal with environmental issues. It identifies the disconnect between ordinances, zoning, enforcement and goals. The group is very supportive of towns providing time, staff and an equal exchange of ideas.
- Goal is to find nonpoint solutions to water quality issues. Assessment is geared towards Smart Growth municipal planning based on nature's boundaries, not political ones.
- A report for each town has been issued for 12 towns to date.

Treasurer's Report—Sal Iannaccone for Amy DiBartolo

- The August 2006 treasurers report was unanimously approved.

Minutes of April 2006 meeting—Deborah McComber

- Minutes were unanimously approved with one correction. The Power Point presentation in Morris Plains will be at the Rotary Club, not Kiwanis.

Executive Committee—*Sal Iannaccone*

- We strongly encourage other members to join the Executive Committee. A lot of the work for WRWAC is conducted by this committee.

Facilitator's Report—*Louise Jensen*

- The NJDEP approved a change in scope of work and the reallocation of the remaining \$16,000 in funds for **Speedwell Lake**. The silt in the scouring basin is building up at a fantastic rate. Under the new scope of work, Kirk Barrett and others from Passaic River Institute will work on determining where the scouring basin sediment is coming from, why and how it can be reduced. A plan-contract is in today's packets.
- Morristown Kiwanis will be replanting this Saturday at 9am at **Bryants Stream**. Michael Brennan from Morris Land Conservancy will receive a stipend to organize the work. Louise has set it up, purchased the plants and arranged to have the trailer delivered to the site.
- **Watershed Restoration Plan Proposal for 319(h) grant**—the NJDEP has changed their focus once more to only implementation projects which is contrary to earlier reports; Pat Rector at NJDEP asked that our restoration plan receive further consideration because of our efforts to meet NJDEP needs under earlier guidelines; we were told to go ahead with the next stage which Souza from Princeton Hydro is ready to pursue pro-bono; we will continue to look at other funding sources; Souza will draw up a proposal.

Outreach—*Louise Jensen for Amy DiBartolo*

- There will be a PowerPoint presentation to Morris Plains Rotary Club on October 27 and to Florham Park Rotary Club in November.
- The Watershed Celebration was a great occasion but could use better attendance by members.
- October 18 is nationwide Watershed Watch.
- November 29 is our Water Quality workshop.
- There will be a watershed-wide clean up sponsored by Trout Unlimited on April 21, 2007.
- Our next AC meeting on November 1 will begin with a presentation on *Part 2 of Municipal Assessment and Sustainability* with Athena Sarafides of NJDEP Office of Sustainability.
- WRWAC is sponsoring a hike along Patriots Path in Morris Township from 9:30am to 12:30pm, October 28. Meet at Patriot's Path trail head parking above Fosterfields on Kahdena Road in Morris Township.

New Business

- Louise Jensen has accepted a full time job at another organization and will be stepping down as facilitator as of October 20, 2006. She regrets ending this position which she has loved, but hopes to continue with our group as a representative for Morris Township. She is willing to assist Amy DiBartolo in chairing the Outreach Committee. Louise has been an excellent facilitator and will be greatly missed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:17pm.

The next meeting is November 1.

The next Executive Committee meeting is October 25.

Deborah McComber