

Whippany River Watershed *Action* Committee

Whippany River Watershed Management Group

Minutes of the April 2, 2008 Meeting

Attendance:

- ART VESPIGNANI—FACILITATOR, WRWAC
- SAL IANNACCONO—HANOVER
- JIM BARANSKI—HANOVER
- TED LARGMAN—MORRIS TWP
- BRIAN MARSHALL—MT. LAKES, SECRETARY WRWAC
- DEBORAH MCCOMBER—ADMINISTRATOR, WRWAC
- PEGGY ADAMS—FREEHOLDERS OF MORRIS COUNTY
- JEFF KURT—HACKLEBARNEY, TROUT UNLIMITED
- BOB STRECHAY—PARSIPPANY-TROY HILLS
- KEN SICKNICK—MCSCD
- RALPH RHODES—MENDHAM TOWNSHIP
- GEORGE VANORDEN—HANOVER, MADISON
- JANIS SLUTSKY—MENDHAM BORO
- HANK SAWOSKI—MORRIS PLAINS
- ANDRE JENSEN—MORRIS PLAINS
- DONNA BANGIOLA—MORRISTOWN
- AMY DIBARTOLO—EAST HANOVER
- JON WRIGHT—HACKLEBARNEY, TROUT UNLIMITED
- ART CATALUSCI—MORRIS COUNTY
- VIRGINIA MICHELIN, ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER, MORRIS COUNTY

Absent Municipalities:

- FLORHAM PARK
- DENVILLE
- MADISON

The Whippany River Watershed Management Group public meeting was opened at 6:09pm by Sal Iannaccone, Chair. There was no discussion, no public input. The meeting was closed at 6:09pm.

Sal Iannaccone opened the Action Committee meeting at 6:10pm.

Outreach—Jim Baranski

- Rich Taubald has arranged with the state for WRWAC to be an organization that can grant **Continuing Education credit** to teachers who attend our events. We have a # and certificates which can be filled out and handed to teachers at the day of the event. This benefit should be promoted on flyers and in press releases.
- Included in today's handouts is a form for members to fill out listing a civic group from their towns that would be interested in a **Power Point presentation** about WRWAC. We ask that every member submit at least one name.
- The next **Outreach meeting** is April 23 at 6:30pm, tentatively located at the Morris County Library.
- **SVAP**—there are still openings for the workshop this Saturday. It is slightly different than the one given at Rutgers last year. This one is conducted by NJDEP and will tie into our pending Sanitary Survey grant request.
- **Earth Day** is set for April 19 from 10am to 4pm. Art has a schedule of volunteers for the day but could use additional help in the afternoon. Art Catalusci, Morris County, would like the contact info to try to arrange for a booth; if too late, WRWAC will display his handouts as long as approved by the program coordinator.
- The Trout Unlimited **Spring Clean Up day** is April 26 at 10am at Community Gardens, Whippany. Jim Baranski has arranged for Clean Communities to partner on this event—they will provide gloves and trash bags. WRWAC or Trout Unlimited can apply for a \$400 mini-grant to cover the expenses of the event.
- Debbie McComber has ordered color copies of the **Annual Reports**, due this week.

- Debbie read the thank you letter from Habitat for Humanity for the WRWAC donation in memory of **Bob Kelly**, a longtime member of WRWAC.
- A sign-up sheet was sent around the room for a **kayak trip** planned for May 10. The route is still being scoped out by John Madden, the leader of the trip.

Speaker—Virginia Michelin, Environmental Planner, Morris County

Ms. Michelin presented the findings of the ongoing Water Balance Model Study that the Morris County Department of Planning, Development and Technology is conducting, which studies the effects and amounts of ground and surface water coming in and leaving Morris County. This study is being studied at the HUC14 level.

Minutes of March 5, 2008 meeting—*Deborah McComber, Administrator*

- Minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report—*Amy DiBartolo, Treasurer*

- The March 2008 treasurer's report was approved unanimously.

Executive Committee Report on March 19 meeting—*Art Vespignani*

- To be covered by the facilitator's report.

Facilitator's Report—*Art Vespignani*

- **Speedwell Lake**—\$1400 is available to mulch and fix the steps. Louise is working with a high school student going for his Eagle Scout badge to arrange this event. The student has met with Morristown reps at the site.
- The next **Program Committee meeting** is May 13 at 8:15am at Hanover Town Hall.
- Along with Rutgers and Parsippany, WRWAC is planning a **Rain Garden seminar** on April 30 at 7pm at Parsippany Town Hall.
- **Sanitary Survey**—grant request is going thru channels at NJDEP. Steve Sousa at Princeton Hydro is the engineer partnering on the grant and has been contacted by NJDEP for minor engineering revisions.
- **Western Avenue proposed project**—the proposal is being put together by Morris Township and Steven Sousa, Princeton Hydro.
- **Black Brook**—WRWAC has determined that the environmental restoration plan proposed by EcolScience at the Morristown Airport is the best of the proposals that have been submitted and hopes to obtain funding for our own Black Brook proposal. Art sent the Black Brook proposal to the NJDEP Division of Land use to be reviewed as part of the EcolScience proposal.
- George VanOrden and Ralph Rhodes will be collecting lake water samples in May, August and October as part of the **extension of the Trend Analysis project**, if weather conditions permit.
- Art left a message with Engineer, Jeff Hartke, concerning **Morristown's plans to build a new power plant** alongside the Whippany River.

Membership

- Hank Sawoski introduced a new member from Morris Plains, Andre Jensen.

New Business—*Sal Iannaccone*

- Peg asked if anyone was attending the **NJ Flood Task Force meeting** in Wayne on April 10 at 7:30pm. No one from this meeting is attending.
- Amy noted the upcoming **ANJEC Road Show** sponsored by East Hanover Environmental Commission.

The next AC meeting is May 7, 2008. Municipal engineers from two/three towns will review the status of stormwater regulations.

The next Executive Committee meeting is May 21, 2008.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20pm.

Deborah McComber