

**Whippany River Watershed *Action* Committee**  
**Whippany River Watershed Management Group**  
**Minutes of the September 10, 2008 Meeting**

**Attendance:**

- SAL IANNACONE—HANOVER, CHAIR WRWAC
- ART VESPIGNANI—FACILITATOR, WRWAC
- RICH TAUBALD—HANOVER
- TED LARGMAN—MORRIS TWP
- BRIAN MARSHALL—MT. LAKES, SECRETARY WRWAC
- PAT DELA FUENTE—PARSIPPANY
- ALISON DEEB—MORRISTOWN
- ART CATALUSCI—MORRIS COUNTY
- DEBORAH McCOMBER—ADMINISTRATOR, WRWAC
- PEGGY ADAMS—FREEHOLDERS OF MORRIS COUNTY
- MARY-ANNA HOLDEN—MADISON
- JIM BARANSKI—HANOVER TOWNSHIP
- HANK SAWOSKI—MORRIS PLAINS
- BOB STRECHAY—PARSIPPANY
- RALPH RHODES—MENDHAM TOWNSHIP
- AMY DiBARTOLO—EAST HANOVER, TREASURER WRWAC
- JEFF KURT—HACKLEBARNEY CHAPTER, TROUT UNLIMITED
- RAY ZABIHACH—MORRIS CO. PLANNING BOARD
- BRIAN JACOBUS—MORRIS CO. MUA

**Absent Municipalities:**

- FLORHAM PARK
- MENDHAM BORO
- DENVILLE

**The Whippany River Watershed Management Group** public meeting was opened at 6:08pm 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 6:09pm.**

**Minutes of June 4, 2008 Meeting—Deborah McComber, Administrator**

- Minutes were approved unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report—Amy DiBartolo, Treasurer**

- Florham Park has not paid dues for 2008.
- The invoices for the work done at Speedwell Lake in August are due. (Louise Jensen submitted them after the meeting.)
- The treasurer's report was approved unanimously.

**Executive Committee Report on August 13 meeting—Art Vespignani**

- To be covered by the facilitator's report.

**Facilitator's Report—Art Vespignani**

- **Speedwell Lake**—a high school student going for his Eagle Scout badge arranged for a restoration project with the town of Morristown in August. Louise Jensen will submit the invoices which will be covered by \$1400 left in the account.
- **Lakes Sampling**—George VanOrden has started sampling.
- **NPS Implementation Grant**—We are planning an SVAP workshop in Parsippany at the Municipal Building on Oct 18 at 10:00am for existing and potential SVAP volunteers to update the training received at the workshop which was held last April and to advise the volunteers of the specific visual assessment protocols which will be used for the grant. Following the meeting, there will be field training at at least two of the assessment locations which were determined over

the summer. On Sept 11, there will be a kick off meeting for the grant with Steve Sousa and Pat Rector. **Postscript:** At the September 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, it was determined to hold a training workshop at the bandstand in Veterans Park in Parsippany at 1:00pm on October 26 to instruct volunteers in the use of the meters which will be used in the assessment of the river and the collection of data specific to the grant.

- **Troy Brook RSMP**—Art Vespignani and Sal Iannaccone met with Chris Obropta, Rutgers, and Pat Rector, NJDEP, to work out the details and in particular, WRWAC's involvement in this project. Proposed projects in Parsippany and Mt. Lakes were discussed. There will be a meeting with DEP permitting representatives on September 18<sup>th</sup> since the next step is to get permitting for specific projects from NJDEP and then meet with town reps. Brian Marshall will be liaison with Mt. Lakes.
- **Western Avenue**—Jim Slate, Morris Twp. engineer, is spearheading this project.
- **Dodge Foundation**—rejected our proposal for a \$29,000 sediment measuring plan for Speedwell Lake and Lake Pocahontas.
- **Watershed Institute grant proposal**—Steve Sousa says one meter will be adequate for the NPS Implementation Grant, so there is not need to request funding for more meters; Art recommends submitting the grant rejected by Dodge to the Watershed Institute next year.
- The next **Program Committee meeting** is tomorrow, Sept. 11, at 8:30am at Hanover Town Hall.

#### **Outreach**—*Art Vespignani and Jim Baranski*

- Art will man a WRWAC booth at the **Parsippany festival** on Sept. 21. We need to supply a table and chairs; set up is at 9:30am. Art recommended that the EC consider purchasing a small tent for such events.
- Jim Baranski represented WRWAC with Watershed Jeopardy at **Hanover Twp Day** last Sunday. It was very successful. He spoke with Ed Schultz from Hanover Twp about doing a Power Point presentation for the town counsel.
- Kathleen Margiotta is organizing Morristown's first **Parks & Ponds Day** on Sept. 27. Clean-up crews will assemble at Speedwell Lake and can go anywhere in Morristown. An afternoon picnic is planned at Burnham Park. WRWAC will offer Watershed Jeopardy at the picnic and oversee a clean-up. Kathleen and Jim Baranski will work out the details.
- **Speakers Bureau**—Rich Taubald is reaching out to local schools again this fall.
- The **Patriots' Path Historical Hike** led by Joe Macasek is October 4.
- **Watershed Signage**—Louise Jensen and Amy DiBartolo are working on this project.
- **Clean Communities Mini-Grant**—will be split between WRWAC and Trout Unlimited, after expenses.
- Jim will arrange for an **Outreach Committee meeting** before year's end.
- **Water Monitoring Day**—we can obtain free kits and tie this in with the October SVAP workshop.
- **NOAA** is offering a grant opportunity seminar on September 24. Art will attend.
- Debbie McComber has created **WRWAC business cards and donation receipts**; members should take a few as representatives of WRWAC.
- On Sept. 23, NJDEP is offering a seminar on **Natural Flood Plain Management**.

**Membership**—Debbie offered WRWAC binders to new members.

**Old Business**—*none*

**New Business**—*Sal Iannaccone*

- **Lake Pocahontas was lowered** due to concern about impending storms.
- There is a **Green Table** seminar on Oct. 7 at 8am at Frelinghuysen Arboretum. The topic is County Wide Trails Visioning. Donna Bangiola is planning to attend. Debbie will resend the flyer to AC members.
- Ted Largman brought up an item discussed at the Morris Twp Environmental Committee meeting about a **clean-up plan to inject chemicals into the ground to oxidize TCE** at the former Metco-Electra site; Art will consult with George VanOrden.

- Amy noted that a **vent on the roof of our trailer has broken off**; thus, rain can get into the trailer; this will be discussed at the EC meeting.

**The meeting was adjourned at 6:40pm** for a game of Watershed Jeopardy, won by Amy DiBartolo.

**The next AC meeting is October 1, 2008.**

**The next Executive Committee meeting is September 17, 2008.**

*Deborah McComber*