

Whippany River Watershed *Action* Committee

Whippany River Watershed November 4, 2009 Meeting

Attendance:

- ART VESPIGNANI—FACILITATOR, WRWAC
- DEBORAH MCCOMBER—ADMINISTRATOR, WRWAC
- SAL IANNACONE—HANOVER
- TED LARGMAN—MORRIS TWP
- AMY DiBARTOLO—EAST HANOVER, TREASURER WRWAC
- PEG ADAMS—MORRIS COUNTY FREEHOLDER REP
- JAMES MURRAY—MORRIS COOUTY FREEHOLDER
- ART CATALUSCI—MORRIS COUNTY DPW
- LEN CIPKINS—PARSIPPANY
- ANDRE JENSEN—MORRIS PLAINS
- HANK SAWOSKI—MORRIS PLAINS
- RICH TAUBALD—HANOVER
- RALPH RHODES—MENDHAM TWP
- PAT DE LA FUENTE—PARSIPPANY
- BOB STRECHAY—PARSIPPANY
- BRIAN JACOBUS—MCMUA
- JEFF KURT—TROUT UNLIMITED
- PAT RECTOR—RUTGERS
- CHRIS MIKOLAJCZYK—PRINCETON HYDRO
- JENNIFER NOBLEJAS—NJDEP

Absent Municipalities:

- FLORHAM PARK
- MADISON
- DENVILLE
- MENDHAM BORO
- MORRISTOWN

The Whippany River Watershed Management Group public meeting was opened at 6:07pm by Sal Iannaccone, Chair. There was no discussion, no public input. The meeting was closed at 6:08pm.

Sal Iannaccone opened the Action Committee meeting at 6:08pm.

Sal introduced Jennifer Noblejas, the new NJDEP Watershed Management liaison for 319 grants.

- She noted that the DEP is focusing on implementation and has established a new way for submitting data on water sampling.
- Art took seven members of the DEP including Jennifer on a tour of present and past project locales.

Minutes—Deborah McComber, Administrator

- Minutes of the October 7, 2009 meeting were provided in the handouts. There were no additions or corrections. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report—Amy DiBartolo, Treasurer

- We received a payment from the DEP in the amount of \$25,000 for the 3rd quarter of the NPS Implementation grant.
- Volunteers, please fill out your in-kind reports for submittal as part of the NPS Implementation grant's 4th quarterly report due mid-December.
- Sal noted that funds and funding is tight. Please encourage your towns to submit their 2009 dues.
- The County has encouraged WRWAC and three other watershed groups to combine under one umbrella group for funding by the County. We have sent the freeholders a letter along with the Rockaway watershed group addressing this request. We are also sending a separate funding request for 2010.
- The Treasurer's Report was approved unanimously.

Facilitator's Report—*Art Vespignani, Facilitator*

- **Troy Brook RSMP**—the raingarden installed at Parsippany Town Hall has received good publicity. Porous pavers are being installed at Normandy Reality, a new project. Rutgers is looking at a zero run-off project at Parsippany Town Hall.
- **NPS Implementation Grant**—Chris M. noted that base water sampling has been completed. Volunteers completed the first round of water sampling and metering. Volunteers, please complete your visual assessments which can be done anytime.
- **Watershed Institute Grant**—we received a list of the groups who received grants in 2009.
- **Black Brook**—Art sent another letter to NJDEP proposing a restoration project as part of any future expansion plans for Morristown airport.
- **Water Monitoring and Educational Summit**—Pat and Art will be speaking on volunteer monitoring at the summit on November 18.
- The **Program Committee's** next meeting is November 24. The group will follow-up on last meeting's discussion on alternative ways to raise funds.

Outreach—*Art Vespignani*

- **Speakers Bureau**—members, please notify Rich Taubald of **organizations in your community** that would be interested in receiving a presentation.
- **Watershed Signage**—Signs will be installed on November 21; please contact Jim Baranski if you can help. Locations have been scouted out, but we need to call for mark outs of gas lines. Rich Taubald will consult with Jim Baranski on logistics. Art Catalusci volunteered to help contact appropriate county personnel.
- The **2009 Annual Report** will include a tear-off donation form.
- For future outreach at **town festivals**, AC members from the towns holding the festivals should arrange for volunteers.
- The **Goose Workshop** planned for February 2010 will be rescheduled for March.
- Check out the **WRWAC display** at the entrance to the library.
- We are planning a **hike next fall**.
- Amy asked for **WaterBucks rewards donations** for our WaterBucks celebration at December's meeting; these might include homemade baked goods, business promotions, etc.
- Outreach is asking that someone take on the responsibility of **volunteer coordinator**.

Old Business—*Deborah McComber*

- **Pharmaceutical waste** can be recycled in Parsippany on November 14. Brian Jacobus has flyers and Amy will post this information on our website.

New Business—*Sal Iannaccone*

- Rich Taubald is encouraging a garden club in **Hanover** to consider installing and maintaining a **raingarden**. Pat Rector said she is looking for potential sites and to please keep her informed.
- Brian Marshall is heading up the **Nominating Committee** for 2010. We will hold elections in December. Please contact Brian with nominations for officers.
- **Deborah McComber is resigning** as administrator as of the end of the year. Please let Art know if you are interested in or can recommend someone for this position.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05pm.

The next Action Committee meeting is on December 2, 2009 with a holiday Waterbucks celebration.

The next Executive Committee meeting is on November 18, 2009.

Deborah McComber