

Whippany River Watershed *Action* Committee

Whippany River Watershed Management Group

Minutes of the February 8, 2005 Meeting

Attendance:

- SAL IANNACCONE—HANOVER
- ART VESPIGNANI--PARSIPPANY
- HANK SAWOSKI—MORRIS PLAINS
- JACK SCHRIER—MORRIS COUNTY FREEHOLDERS
- CHRIS MANAK—EAST HANOVER
- RALPH RHODES--MENDHAM
- RAY ZABIHACH—MORRIS COUNTY PLANNING BOARD
- PEGGY ADAMS—MORRIS TWP
- BRAIN MARSHALL—MOUNTAIN LAKES
- WILLIAM DEBUVITZ—MENDHAM BOROUGH
- TED LARGMAN—MORRIS TWP
- LOUISE JENSEN—FACILITATOR TO BE
- DEBORAH MCCOMBER—ADMINISTRATOR
- HERBERT BERMAN—TROUT UNLIMITED HACKLEBARNEY CHAPTER
- DAVE HELMER—MORRIS COUNTY PARK COMMISSION
- GARY ECK—PFIZER INC
- DENNIS DAYBACK—T&M ASSOCIATES
- MIKE BRENNAN—MORRIS LAND CONSERVANCY
- KEN SICKNICK—MCSCD
- MIKE DAIGLE—DAILY RECORD

Sal Iannaccone, Chair, convened the **WMG meeting** at 6:10pm. *Art Vespignani, Vice-Chair*, noted the upcoming Troy Brook meeting on Tuesday Feb 15 at 10am at Hanover Municipal Building. All are welcome, project is going very well, presentations are worth seeing. WMG meeting was opened to the public with no comment. Meeting adjourned at 6:15pm.

Speakers—Gary Eck, Pfizer Inc, and Dennis Dayback, T&M Associates, discussed Whippany watershed analysis included in the Pfizer construction plan

- Maps of Morris Plains Pfizer site, 170 acres, displayed
- After Hurricane Floyd in Sept 1999, Pfizer hired T&M Associates (in 2002) to study flood issues and impact on watershed of new construction
- Watnong Brook flooded two buildings on current Pfizer site
- RR culvert not adequate to hold a large amount of rainwater (7.9" in 36 hours during Floyd)
- Also impacted Malapardis watershed
- T&M modeled all bridges, detention and retention basins and determined that Pfizer actually acts as a detention basin for Morris Plains
- Future plans will include parking decks rather than much cheaper surface parking areas, several small detention basins—plans are in compliance with new state stormwater regulations
- Audience commented on the importance of having a regional approach to local construction

WRWAC meeting reconvened at 6:45pm.

December minutes approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report December 2004 and Annual 2004

- January 2005 same as Dec 2004 except for one item, a payment for PO Box of \$48
- WRWAC closed out Phase II Atno Brook grant
- Reports were approved unanimously

Executive Committee Meeting (Feb 3, 2005) report—Art Vespignani

- Herb Berman, Trout Unlimited Hacklebarney Chapter, said his group would like to partner with WRWAC in a broader volunteer effort than in the past; they are looking for more involvement in watershed issues

- Exec Comm proposes that we hold a Strategic Planning meeting to include Exec Comm members and subcommittee chairs (or any interested members) to follow the upcoming Exec Comm meeting on Feb 24; SP meeting would occur at 12:30pm at Hanover Town Hall; the subcommittees were encourage to become more actively involved in WRWAC plans and activities
- Action Committee unanimously approved 2005 slate for Exec Comm: Sal Iannaccone as Chair, Art Vespignani as Vice-Chair, Amy DiBartolo as Treasurer, Brian Marshall and Jack Schrier as At-Large members
- Kathy Duane retired as Secretary last month so looking for a new Secretary; also need to replace Mary-Anna Holden as Education and Outreach Chair; no replacements have been found as yet
- Ralph Rhodes will join the Education & Outreach Committee
- Rep from AMEC Earth And Environmental Inc. has client who wishes to fund environmental activity in NJ as a way to settle legal claims as determined by NJDEP; he asked for a list of potential WRWAC projects which could use outside funding, which Louise Jensen provided
- Since we did not have a quorum at the last Exec Comm meeting, the Action Committee should review and vote on invoices listed in the Exec Comm minutes; an invoice from Amy DiBartolo (who will now be paid for her bookkeeping expenses) was added; invoices were approved unanimously
- Art received notices of numerous violations for unpaid tolls in Delaware, erroneously attributed to WRWAC's trailer license plate; Art called the toll bureau and expects a letter clearing WRWAC of these charges
- Upcoming speakers—Jim Cosgrove will speak in May or June; Herb Berman was asked if his group would make a presentation in March and he will look into it

Dues and Appointments—*Sal Iannaccone* asked members to please remind towns of WRWAC dues for 2005 and of changes in appointments for 2005; Debbie will follow-up with reminders to mayors

Grants Summary—*Louise Jensen, Facilitator To Be*

- Speedwell Lake will be completed after a spring 2005 workday to do plantings; lots of volunteer groups are interested in helping
- We need someone with a trailer hitch to tow our trailer to job sites; it is currently parked at the Morristown recycling center; Dave Helmer, Executive Director of Morris County Park Commission, said his group could transport the trailer for WRWAC
- Everyone is welcome to attend the Troy Brook project meeting on Feb. 15 at 10am at Hanover Town Hall
- WRWAC needs to look at potential projects and funding beyond NJDEP; please let Louise know of any ideas

Workshop—*Louise Jensen* reported on the Workshop Committee meeting held on Jan 28 with Louise, Peg Adams, Dick Gulick and Deborah McComber in attendance

- Theme is “managing the environment holistically to improve water quality”
- Hope to hold it the day before Earth Day in April
- Looking for a corporate sponsor and/or host
- Presentations may include lawn care, pesticides, wildlife/domestic animal control, land management
- Herb Berman suggested inviting vendors for a display fee

Subcommittees—*Art Vespignani*

- Still need some chairs for subcommittees and we would like to have them attend the Strategic Planning meeting; we would like to see more members sign up for subcommittees
- Contact Deborah McComber if wish to attend SP meeting and/or be on a committee

Model Ordinances—*Sal Iannaccone*

- Chart of ordinances by town enclosed in today's packet
- Members should follow-up with their towns on missing ordinances

Green Table—Amy DiBartolo, Louise Jensen, Dave Helmer attended the meeting in Jan

New Business—None

Next meeting is March 8, 2005

Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm

Deborah McComber
Administrator