

Whippany River Watershed *Action* Committee

Whippany River Watershed Management Group

Minutes of the May 10, 2005 Meeting

Attendance:

- SAL IANNACONE—HANOVER
- HANK SAWOSKI—MORRIS PLAINS
- RALPH RHODES—MENDHAM TWP
- PEGGY ADAMS—MORRIS TWP, FREEHOLDER REP
- BRIAN MARSHALL—MOUNTAIN LAKES
- BILL DEBUVITZ—MENDHAM BOROUGH
- FAITH TEEPLE—MORRISTOWN
- CHRIS MANAK—EAST HANOVER
- SAM MANTONE—MADISON
- LOUISE JENSEN—FACILITATOR
- DEBORAH MCCOMBER—ADMINISTRATOR
- HERBERT BERMAN—TROUT UNLIMITED HACKLEBARNEY CHAPTER
- GRANT LEWIS—MENDHAM TWP, MASER CONSULTING
- MICHELLE BURKE—MCMUA
- CYNTHIA SUPKA—MORRIS COUNTY PLANNING
- JAMES CONSGROVE—TRC OMNI

Absent Municipalities:

- DENVILLE
- FLORHAM PARK
- PARSIPPANY

Sal Iannaccone, Chair, convened WRWAC meeting at 6:12pm.

Introductions

- Grant Lewis from Mendham Twp
- Sam Mantone from Madison
- Cynthia Supka, representing Ray Zabihach, Morris County Planning
- Michelle Burke, MCMUA

Speaker—James Cosgrove, TRC Omni on “Tackling Water Quality Impairments in New Jersey”

- Presentation centered on TMDLs in the Whippany and Passaic rivers with phosphorous as primary criteria.
- Phosphorous not a limiting productivity factor in most of Whippany and mainstream Passaic.
- Mendham Twp only problem area, probably due to septic issue—might be worth looking at as WRWAC project.
- Study confirmed NJDEP analyses of phosphorous in Whippany River.
- Goal is watershed-specific nutrient criterion.
- Report will be ready year-end at which time OMNI recommends watershed-wide meetings with DEP and towns; towns would have about a year to implement phosphorous reduction plans.

Sal Iannaccone convened the **WMG meeting** at 6:56pm. WMG meeting was opened to the public with no comment. Meeting adjourned at 6:57pm.

Sal Iannaccone reconvened the **WRWAC meeting** at 6:56pm.

Secretary’s Report—Deborah McComber, Administrator

- April 12 minutes approved unanimously

Treasurer’s Report—Debbie McComber for Treasurer, Amy DiBartolo

- Received check from Morris County for \$17,500 grant to WRWAC for 2005, but not in financial statement yet.
- Financial statement for April was approved unanimously.

Financial Overview of Grants—*Louise Jensen, Facilitator*

- Arbor Day at **Burnham Park** great success; two WRWAC signs asking people not to trod on buffer were installed by Debbie McComber's husband; WRWAC donated Red Maple tree, thru Amy DiBartolo's husband's efforts; a local volunteer group expressed interest in follow-up in fall with more clean-up and fencing repair.
- **Model Ordinances:** NJDEP has asked that we use remaining funds after all, so WRWAC was able to provide additional reimbursement to some towns; also looking into educational programs.
- **Bee Meadow** report issued by Rutgers.
- **Troy Brook** meeting on June 14, 10am in Hanover, where final draft of report should be presented.
- **Lakes Study:** No change.
- Submitted Letters of Intent for **Black Brook and Pine Brook** grants, and scheduled meeting with NJDEP for May 24 (with attendance by OMNI, George VanOrden, Sal Iannaccone, Louise Jensen).

Subcommittees—Members urged to sign-up for a committee if not on one; **reports due at next meeting in June.**

Executive Committee Meeting (April 28, 2005) Report—*Deborah McComber*

- Minutes approved unanimously.

Facilitator Report—*Louise Jensen*

- **Partnership Policy:** goes along with 501(3) requirements of no association with partisan groups; policy written by Louise was approved unanimously (attached).
- **Morris Tomorrow** and other watershed groups met with Sal and Louise today; Ten Towns rep is drafting a plan to work towards shared stable sources of **funding for on-going water monitoring.**
- **Stream Monitoring Program** at Great Swamp Educational Center, Sat. June 11, All Day—members are encouraged to attend this free program for training to meet DEP monitoring requirements for future projects; RSVP to Louise.
- **Green Table is** this Thursday at Arboretum.
- **Speedwell Lake** Clean-Up at 1pm this Sunday May 15th; Trout Unlimited is providing fly fishing demo.
- **WRWAC Workshop on Mitigation Planning for Stormwater Regulations** scheduled for October 27, 2005 at Frelinghuysen Arboretum.
- **September Anniversary** at Veterans Park being scheduled by Art Vespignani.

New Business—*Sal Iannaccone*

- Herb Berman, Trout Unlimited, noted upcoming speaker at TU meeting: **Kelly Curran, Great Swamp Org., discussing water quality;** might be worth booking her for one of our meetings.

Next meeting is June 14, 2005

Meeting adjourned at 7:26pm

Deborah McComber
Administrator