

Whippany River Watershed *Action* Committee

Whippany River Watershed Management Group

Minutes of the February 1, 2006 Meeting

Attendance:

- HANK SAWOSKI—MORRIS PLAINS
- BRIAN MARSHALL—MOUNTAIN LAKES
- ART VESPIGNANI—PARSIPPANY
- GEORGE VANORDEN—HANOVER TOWNSHIP, MADISON
- AMY DIBARTOLO—EAST HANOVER
- ROBERT CONLEY—MADISON
- RALPH RHODES—MENDHAM TOWNSHIP
- VINCE NOVAK—MORRIS PLAINS
- TED LARGMAN—MORRIS TWP
- PEGGY ADAMS—MORRIS COUNTY FREEHOLDERS
- GARY ECK—PFIZER
- MICHELLE BURKE—MCMUA
- JEFF KURT—TROUT UNLIMITED
- JIM SLATE—MORRIS TWP ENGINEER
- STEPHEN SOUZA—PRINCETON HYDRO
- LOUISE JENSEN—FACILITATOR
- DEBORAH MCCOMBER—ADMINISTRATOR
- JEANNETTE STEIN—INTERN

Absent Municipalities:

- DENVILLE
- FLORHAM PARK
- MORRISTOWN
- MENDHAM BORO

Art Vespignani, Vice-Chair, convened Whippany Watershed Management Group meeting at 6:05pm.

- On March 8, 2006, there will be a stakeholders meeting on the Troy Brook project at the Parsippany Municipal Building, Council Chambers. Milestone 2 will be reviewed. Louise Jensen discussed the January meeting in Trenton with the NJDEP.
- A stakeholders meeting will follow.
- The meeting was adjourned at 6:09pm.

Whippany River Watershed Action Committee meeting was opened at 6:10pm.

Speakers

- *Dr. Stephen Sousa from Princeton Hydro* spoke about the breached dam on Western Ave in Morris Twp. He proposed ways to control erosion, mitigate peak flows and create a passive recreational area. Funding for a potential project is possible from ANJEC, Morris Twp, Twp Environmental Commission and WRWAC.
- *Jim Slate, Morris Twp Engineer*, also spoke about the dam. He noted that the Township is very interested in supporting a project to create a regional stormwater basin there.
- The WRWAC Program Committee will look at putting together a proposal for a project together with Morris Township and Princeton Hydro.

Minutes of December 2005 meeting—Deborah McComber.

- Minutes were unanimously approved.

Nominating Committee—Art Vespignani

- WRWAC needs one or two more Executive Committee members, including a Secretary. We welcome recommendations.

Treasurer's Report—Amy DiBartolo

- Amy presented the December 2005 and January 2006 financial reports and the 2006 budget.
- WRWAC has \$41,376.82 available for project funding as of Jan 2006.
- Amy is looking at interest rates at various banks as an alternative to Sovereign.
- The budget was adopted unanimously.

Executive Committee Meeting Jan 25, 2006—Deborah McComber

- Dues and membership letters for 2006 were sent to Whippany Watershed towns.
- Peg Adams and John Murphy were appointed to WRWAC by the freeholders.
- We have received dues or vouchers from Morristown, Madison, Morris Twp and Mendham Boro.
- We have received appointments from Mt Lakes, Madison, Morris Twp, Morris Plains and Hanover.

Facilitator Report—Louise Jensen

- **Dates to remember:** March 21-24: NJAWR conference. April 20: NJDEP workshop on water monitoring, 9am-5pm. Check NJAWRA website for Stokes workshop.
- **Speedwell:** NJDEP is doing a site visit to review change in extent of plantings that were recommended by Rutgers. In the spring, we must add and adjust fishing platforms due to continued erosion. Also, need to add shrubs on slopes of lake.
- **WRWAC Lakes Management Conference** is set for March 22, 8:30-11:30am, and includes Continental Breakfast. Stephen Sousa from Princeton Hydro and George VanOrden will speak.
- There will be a **Program Committee** meeting on February 15. The committee will meet with Dodge about funding of proposed projects. The committee may also look into Victoria Foundation funding. Princeton Hydro is interested in providing technical support for projects; and Dr. Kirk Barrett from Passaic River Institute, Montclair State College, will also meet with the group concerning technical support.
- **Bryant Stream**—Clean-up is needed.

Outreach Committee Report—Amy DiBartolo

- The Outreach Committee met on January 18.
- Planned events are a canoe trip and a broader scope for our Anniversary.
- Jeanette Stein, our intern, is busy working on Outreach.
- We are looking at incentives, namely Water Bucks, for members.
- Jeanette is identifying nonprofit organizations that may be interested in WRWAC presentations and that may provide potential volunteers. Louise, Amy and Brian will fine-tune our Power Point presentation to towns to use for other organizations. Jeanette will contact the organizations with packets and schedule presentations. We need member volunteers to make the presentations.
- The group is looking at an Adopt the Whippany program, a mayors' roundtable and a workshop in the fall on water quantity.

Program Committee Report—*Brian Marshall*

- Potential projects are the breached dam at Western Avenue, Black Brook and follow-up on results of the Lakes Study.
- The committee is meeting with Kirk Barrett, Passaic River Institute, Montclair State College, who may be able to provide technical support for projects.

Introductions—*Art Vespignani*

- Attendees introduced themselves for the benefit of new members.

New Business

- Ted Largman noted that Morris Twp is looking at a booth at the Morristown Fall Festival as a way to meet its NJDEP standards on educating the public. He asked if WRWAC and/or member towns might also be interested in a booth if available through the County. Ted was asked to follow up with the Morristown Partnership and the County on logistics of obtaining a booth.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Next meeting is March 1, 2006.

Deborah McComber, Administrator