

Whippany River Watershed *Action* Committee

Whippany River Watershed Management Group

Minutes of the June 7, 2006 Meeting

Attendance:

- BRIAN MARSHALL—MOUNTAIN LAKES
- ART VESPIGNANI—PARSIPPANY-TROY HILLS
- AMY DIBARTOLO—EAST HANOVER
- SAL IANNACCONE—HANOVER TOWNSHIP
- TED LARGMAN—MORRIS TWP
- HANK SAWOSKI—MORRIS PLAINS
- BOB STRECHAY—PARSIPPANY
- RICH TAUBALD—GENERAL PUBLIC
- DONNA BANGIOLA—POCAHONTAS LAKE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
- LOUISE JENSEN—FACILITATOR
- DEBORAH MCCOMBER—ADMINISTRATOR
- JON WRIGHT—TROUT UNLIMITED
- JEFF KURT—PRESIDENT TROUT UNLIMITED
- MICHELLE BURKE—MCMUA

Absent Municipalities:

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

Whippany River Watershed Management Group public meeting was opened at 6:06pm by Sal Iannaccone, Chair. Art Vespignani noted that Chris Obropta of Rutgers Extension presented a report on the Troy Brook regional Stormwater Management Plan to the Parsippány Town Council. Obropta is meeting with other stakeholder towns and plans an updated report this fall which will be provided to the stakeholders and NJDEP. A final report is due at the end of the year. There was no public comment. The meeting ended at 6:07pm.

Sal Iannaccone, Chair, convened the WRWAC meeting at 6:07pm.

Minutes of April 2006 meeting—*Deborah McComber*

- Minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report—*Amy DiBartolo*

- The May 2006 treasurers report was unanimously approved.

Calendar—*Deborah McComber*

- A calendar of meetings for 2006-2007 was presented to the members for comments. Event dates will be determined at the next meeting of the Outreach Committee. The calendar will be mailed to the members once finalized.

Executive Committee—*Art Vespignani*

- Invoices for Louise, Debbie and Amy were approved, as well as a \$5 pay raise for each of them.
- Today's Watershed Jeopardy game and Waterbucks were discussed.
- The Executive Committee minutes were accepted as reported.

Facilitator's Report—*Louise Jensen*

- A quarterly report on the **Speedwell Lake** project was submitted to NJDEP in May; we just received feedback in a letter from Pat Rector. The NJDEP will soon conduct a site visit at which time they will determine if we can receive a short extension on the project.
- We have formally handed off stewardship of **Atno** to the town of Morristown. In particular they will take responsibility for egg addling in Burnham Park.
- **Black Brook and Sanitary Survey Follow-Up**—On May 10 there was a pre-application meeting with the DEP and Princeton Hydro for these two proposed projects; the NJDEP is very excited about plans to target TMDL levels based on the Sanitary Survey. Letters went out to the mayors of member towns asking for letters of support. The full proposals are due June 30.

Outreach—*Amy DiBartolo*

- There will be an Outreach Committee meeting the week of June 19-23.
- After today's meeting, we will have speaker training for Power Point presentations to civic organizations.
- Amy handed out waterbucks to members who had earned them.

Website Kick-Off—*Louise Jensen*

- The website is ready except for a few technical issues.
- It will be hosted by Rosenet in Madison (take a look at www.rosenet.org/wrwac).
- Jason Teeple did a wonderful job developing the site.

Watershed Jeopardy—*Brian Marshall and Art Vespignani*

- Brian and Art (former TV Jeopardy winner) led an amazing game with everyone in attendance as contestants. It was full of laughs, particularly when it was discovered that Amy DiBartolo had memorized the capitols of every region in Canada. The winner received ten waterbucks. Amy won first prize, Michelle Burke second and Jeff Kurt third. It was decided that Watershed Jeopardy must become an annual event.

New Business—*Louise Jensen*

- The NJDEP held a public meeting on the **OMNI Passaic River phosphorous detection study**; Louise has the PP presentation and can send it to anyone interested through email; the study has led NJDEP to relook at TMDL targets in these regions.
- The rebuilding of a Mendham bridge is now being reviewed by the local Historical Society.
- Ted Largman noted a Daily Record article listing polluted rivers and levels, including the Whippany; perhaps the paper needs to be contacted by someone at WRWAC on the progress being made on the Whippany.
- We are still waiting for an answer from Morris County as to booth availability at Morristown's Fall Festival; Louise is meeting with freeholders on June 23 (9:30am) to make a presentation on WRWAC and will remind them of our interest in a booth at the festival. Everyone is welcome to attend the meeting in the Freeholders' Conference Rm at the Co. Administration Building in Morristown.
- There is a website for purchase of Storm Drain Markers which Debbie will send to members. They say, "No Dumping. Drains to River." Hanover is already marking storm drains.
- Jon Wright of Trout Unlimited noted TU is sampling for invertebrates in areas of the Whippany, including Morristown (behind Acorn Hall). TU will send a report to the NJDEP. It was noted that TU is linked to our website.
- Donna Bangiola noted that she addled 60 eggs on Pocahontas Lake, and as a result, only three eggs hatched this spring!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.

The next meeting is the September Anniversary event, date TBA.

Deborah McComber