

Whippany River Watershed *Action* Committee

Whippany River Watershed Management Group

Minutes of the February 7, 2007 Meeting

Attendance:

- BRIAN MARSHALL—SECRETARY ELECT, WRWAC; MT. LAKES
- SAL IANNACCONI, CHAIR, WRWAC; HANOVER
- ART VESPIGNANI—FACILITATOR, WRWAC
- TED LARGMAN—MORRIS TWP
- AMY DIBARTOLO—TREASURER, WRWAC; EAST HANOVER
- HANK SAWOSKI—MORRIS PLAINS
- CHRIS MANAK—EAST HANOVER
- BOB STRECHAY—PARSIPPANY
- MICHELLE BURKE—MCMUA
- RALPH RHODES—MENDHAM TOWNSHIP
- DONNA BANGIOLA—MORRISTOWN
- DEBORAH MCCOMBER—ADMINISTRATOR, WRWAC
- JEFF KURT—PRESIDENT, TROUT UNLIMITED
- JIM BARANSKI—HANOVER
- RICHARD TIGHE—MORRISTOWN
- LOUISE JENSEN—VICE-CHAIR ELECT, WRWAC; MORRIS TOWNSHIP
- KATHLEEN MARGIOTTA—MORRISTOWN
- GREG PERRY—MCPB
- JEREMIAH BERGSTROM—TRC OMNI
- CHRIS OBROPTA—RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
- SANDRA GOODROW—RUTGERS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
- PAT RECTOR—NJDEP WATERSHED MANAGEMENT
- VICKI POTUCEK—WATERSHED AMBASSADOR
- NANCY COLEMAN—PARSIPPANY TROY ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION

Absent Municipalities:

- MADISON
- DENVILLE
- FLORHAM PARK
- MENDHAM BORO

The Whippany River Watershed Management Group public meeting was opened at 6:03pm by Sal Iannaccone, Chair. There were no announcements nor public comment. The meeting ended at 6:04pm.

Sal opened the WRWAC meeting at 6:04pm. He introduced a new member from Hanover, Jim Baranski.

Sal introduced today's speakers who would be discussing the Troy Brook Regional Management Plan, Milestone 4: Chris Obropta, Rutgers Cooperative Extension and Pat Rector, NJDEP Water Management Division. Other reps were Sandra Goodrow, Rutgers Coop Ext, and Jeremiah Bergstrom, TRC OMNI.

- Brochures and presentation overviews were handed out and are available from Deborah McComber.
- This is the first regional management plan that is on its way to adoption by NJDEP: It provides water quality and water quantity objectives for the region.
- All information will be available online, including GIS statistics for each municipality and resource guides for "disconnection" projects. Towns are encouraged to use this plan as part of their planning process and to propose implementation projects for funding by NJDEP.

- The plan recommends a revised Stormwater Control Ordinance, which must be reviewed and critiqued by each town.
- NJDEP will submit comments after which Rutgers will meet with towns to review Milestone 4 recommendations, prior to adoption by NJDEP.
- As Lead Planning Agency, WRWAC will be asked to work with towns to submit Authorizations approving the plan's recommendations.

Minutes of December 6, 2006 meeting—*Deborah McComber*

- Minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report—*Amy DiBartolo*

- Amy proposed a resolution to switch bank accounts from Commerce Bank to Sovereign Bank, which was approved unanimously. Sal, Amy and Brian will be authorized to sign WRWAC checks.
- Amy presented the January Treasurer's report.

Executive Committee—*Art Vespignani*

- We met on January 29, 2007, to plan for today's AC meeting.

Facilitator's Report—*Art Vespignani*

- Art reviewed the projects listed in the facilitator's spreadsheet hand out.
- Art has confirmed Capt Bill Sheehan, Hackensack Riverkeeper, as speaker for the March AC meeting. We are also planning another Hackensack River Trip this summer.
- Pat noted that NJDEP cannot provide advanced funding before invoices are submitted for work on projects funded by NJDEP. But the process can be expedited when large amounts are involved—WRWAC can submit invoices from contractors directly to NJDEP. WRWAC does not have to pay first and then submit to NJDEP.

Outreach—*Amy DiBartolo*

- Donna Bangiola is providing a presentation about WRWAC to Morristown Kiwanis.
- Rich Taubald is working on presentations to high school science classes.
- We are planning a Clean Water Tour for our next workshop, hikes in May and October, and a spring canoe trip led by John Madden.
- So far, we have booked six groups for the April 21 County-Wide Clean Up. Jeff Kurt of Trout Unlimited proposed that his group organize a clean up project behind the Morris County Mall. Sal said he would get the necessary approvals from Hanover Twp. Michelle Burke noted there is a need for work in the Washington Valley area of Morris Twp on Schoolhouse Road. Jeff will look into it. Other participating towns include Morristown and East Hanover. Vicki Potucek, Watershed Ambassador, will help coordinate the Clean Up.
- We are planning to hold our Anniversary celebrations less often but will continue to give out awards and recognitions annually.

Program—*Brian Marshall*

- See Facilitator's Report.
- Western Avenue—Art will follow up with Steve Sousa at Princeton Hydro, who has been asked to provide the statistics required by Morris Twp, to move forward with this proposed project.

Membership—*Deborah McComber*

- Six towns (Mendham Boro, Parsippany, Mt Lakes, Morris Plains, E Hanover and Denville) have provided dues vouchers or checks; and four towns (Morristown, Madison, Morris Twp and Hanover) have provided appointments for 2007.
- Members should please remind their towns to submit dues and appointments for 2007. Debbie will send reminder letters to mayors.

Nominating Committee—*Brian Marshall*

- Brian proposed the 2007 slate for the Executive Committee: Sal Iannoccone, Chair; Louise Jensen, Vice-Chair; Brian Marshall, Secretary; Amy DiBartolo, Treasurer; and Hank Sawoski and Donna Bangiola, At-Large.
- Sal Iannaccone asked for other nominations and any discussion. There was none.
- The slate proposed by Brian was unanimously approved.

Old Business—*Art Vespignani*

- Richard Tighe, Morristown, asked if WRWAC has taken a position on plans to expand the Morristown airport. Sal, Art and Amy attended the recent meeting concerning these plans. Sal made a motion that WRWAC go on record as opposing the plan. Letters must be submitted to the hearing office by February 15. The motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:29pm.

The next meeting is March 7, 2007, with speaker, Capt Bill Sheehan from the Hackensack RiverKeeper. The next Executive Committee meeting is February 21, 2007.

Deborah McComber