

Whippany River Watershed *Action* Committee

Whippany River Watershed Management Group

Minutes of the November 7, 2007 Meeting

Attendance:

- ART VESPIGNANI—FACILITATOR, WRWAC
- AMY DiBARTOLO—TREASURER, WRWAC; EAST HANOVER
- SAL IANNACCONE—CHAIR WRWAC, HANOVER
- JIM BARANSKI—HANOVER
- TED LARGMAN—MORRIS TWP
- LOUISE JENSEN—MORRIS TWP, VICE-CHAIR WRWAC
- BOB STRECHAY—PARSIPPANY
- DEBORAH McCOMBER—ADMINISTRATOR, WRWAC
- PEGGY ADAMS—FREEHOLDERS OF MORRIS COUNTY
- JEFF KURT—HACKLEBARNEY, TROUT UNLIMITED
- BRIAN MARSHALL—SECRETARY, WRWAC, MOUNTAIN LAKES
- PHIL NOTESTINE—MT. LAKES WOODLANDS COMMITTEE
- HANK SAWOSKI—MORRIS PLAINS
- DOT STILLINGER—CHATHAM TWP. ENVIORNMENTAL COMMISSION
- CHRIS HEPBURN—MADISON OPEN SPACE
- NICOLE VECCHIENE—EAST HANOVER EC
- RICHARD HOLFORD—DENVILLE POWWW
- TOM CARR—MT LAKES ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION
- KELLI O'CONNOR—MORRIS CADB
- INGRID VANDEGAER—NJ CONSERVATION
- CHRIS VIDAL—EAST HANOVER
- JANIS SLUTSKY—MENDHAM BORO
- MIKE ROMANKIEWICZ—WATERSHED AMBASSADOR, WMA6

Absent Municipalities:

- FLORHAM PARK
- MENDHAM TWP

The Whippany River Watershed Management Group public meeting was opened at 6:04pm by Sal Iannaccone, Chair. There was no discussion, no public input. The meeting was closed at 6:04pm.

Sal introduced the speaker, Amy DiBartolo who spoke about Wood Lot Conservation

Amy discussed the grant received and the intensive work performed by her and her husband on their wood lot. The grant helped to fund the removal of invasives and the replacement with native growth for a healthy forest and water preservation.

Minutes of October 3, 2007 meeting—Deborah McComber, Administrator

- Minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report—Amy DiBartolo, Treasurer

- The treasurer's report for August was presented and was approved unanimously. We received our last payment from NJDEP for Speedwell Lake project--\$20,000.

Executive Committee Report—Art Vespignani

- To be covered during this meeting.

Facilitator's Report—Art Vespignani

- **Western Avenue**—Proposal is in its final stages. The project, spearheaded by Morris Township, has money for the planning phase, but will need further funding for the implementation phase.
- **Speedwell Lake**—under review by NJDEP.

- **Sanitary Survey**—in the hands of the NJDEP.
- **Black Brook**—looking for alternative funds; the EC members are meeting with an environmental expert regarding the airport project in this region after the AC meeting.
- **Troy Brook**—closed. The Program Committee is meeting on November 20 to discuss future projects stemming from this plan.

Program Committee—*Art Vespignani*

- Next meeting is Nov 20 at 8am at Hanover Town Hall.

Outreach Committee—*Amy DiBartolo*

- The **new Watershed Ambassador**, Michael Romankiewicz introduced himself, asked to be added to our mailing and email list and emphasized his interest in joining WRWAC for outreach.
- **Speakers Bureau**—updated PowerPoint presentation all set; Rich Tuabald is contacting schools.
- Art sent out forms on which members can note where they see **watershed signs**; several were handed in today.
- The **Speedwell Lake** presentation is ready to be shown to interested towns.
- We are planning a **streamside visual assessment workshop** with NJDEP providing the training in the spring. Art will determine a location and date.
- The **hike** along Patriots Path was a great success.
- Posting on the **website** is back in operation by Billy DiBartolo now that Madison has changed servers.
- December is the **WaterBucks awards meeting**.

Nominating Committee—*Brian Marshall*

- We need volunteers to replace two EC members for next year. Peg Adams said she is interested.

New Business—*Art Vespignani*

- Louise Jensen noted that the Speedwell Lake project still has \$1400 in funds for a spring clean-up project where Patriots Path is eroding near the bridge. We are hoping to work with Morristown to replace the steps.
- On November 20, the Morristown Environmental Commission is looking at a proposed change in zoning under the new Morristown Master Plan which asks that certain areas be redefined as part of the Highlands plan. The WRWAC EC will also address this issue at its next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm.

The next AC meeting is December 12, 2007.

The next Executive Committee meeting is November 28, 2007.

Deborah McComber