

**Whippany River Watershed *Action* Committee**  
**Whippany River Watershed Management Group**  
**Minutes of the November 5, 2008 Meeting**

**Attendance:**

- SAL IANNACONE—HANOVER, CHAIR WRWAC
- ART VESPIGNANI—FACILITATOR, WRWAC
- RICH TAUBALD—HANOVER
- BRIAN MARSHALL—MT. LAKES, SECRETARY WRWAC
- PAT DE LA FUENTE—PARSIPPANY
- DEBORAH MCCOMBER—ADMINISTRATOR, WRWAC
- PEGGY ADAMS—FREEHOLDERS OF MORRIS COUNTY
- JIM BARANSKI—HANOVER
- TED LARGMAN—MORRIS TWP
- HANK SAWOSKI—MORRIS PLAINS
- RALPH RHODES—MENDHAM TWP
- LEN CIPKINS—PARSIPPANY
- BOB STRECHAY—PARSIPPANY
- AMY DIBARTOLO—EAST HANOVER, TREASURER WRWAC
- JEFF KURT—HACKLEBARNEY CHAPTER, TROUT UNLIMITED
- BRIAN JACOBUS—MCMUA
- CHRIS VIDAL—MCMUA
- ANDRE JENSEN—MORRIS PLAINS
- JANIS SLUTSKY—MENDHAM BOROUGH
- ALISON DEEB—MORRISTOWN

**Absent Municipalities:**

- FLORHAM PARK
- MADISON
- DENVILLE

**The Whippany River Watershed Management Group** public meeting was opened at 6:08pm by Sal Iannaccone, Chair. There was no discussion, no public input. The meeting was closed at 6:09pm.

**Sal Iannaccone opened the Action Committee meeting at 6:09pm.**

The speaker on Native Plants cancelled at the last minute. Art Vespignani will reschedule him for a future meeting.

**Treasurer's Report—Amy DiBartolo, Treasurer**

- Attendance at the two October workshops already amounted to 70 in-kind hours (\$1700) towards the NPS Implementation grant. Members, please convey to your towns the important work being conducted by our group and the need to continue funding for 2009.

**Facilitator's Report—Art Vespignani**

- **Troy Brook RSMP**—the meeting with Rutgers and Parsippany officials has been rescheduled for Nov 12. The purpose is to review proposed projects covered in the grant.
- **Black Brook**—US Fish & Wildlife reviewed the grant proposal. They felt they could not provide funding for “planning”, but may be interested in the restoration phase of such a project.
- **NPS Implementation Grant**—thank you to Princeton Hydro and Pat Rector, NJDEP, for helping to lead the two workshops. Thanks to Bob Strechay and the town of Parsippany for hosting the morning phase of the first workshop. We have purchased a meter and trained 16-18 volunteers in visual assessments and/or metering. We will hold a special Executive Board meeting tonight to work out plans to put the volunteers to work. Attachment F was submitted to us by Princeton Hydro; Art will review the contract and discuss any issues with Princeton Hydro before submitting it to NJDEP.
- **Lakes Sampling**—George VanOrden did additional sampling in October.

- **Western Ave**—Art will contact Steve Sousa at Passaic River Institute to obtain a copy of his report, which should have been submitted to Morris Township by now.
- The minutes of the latest **Program Committee** meeting are in today's handouts. The next meeting is January 15. We expect to be busy with future projects stemming from the NPS Implementation grant and the Troy Brook Regional Management Plan.

#### **Outreach**—*Jim Baranski*

- **Speakers Bureau**—Rich Taubald gave a presentation to the Hanover Environmental Commission with Sal Iannaccone in attendance. Members, please recommend this presentation to your towns. Rich is also in contact with several schools. He is doing a presentation for Whippany Park the week of November 17<sup>th</sup>.
- **2009 Spring events** were planned—Earth Day, another Spring CleanUp with Trout Unlimited, a canoe trip, perhaps where the Whippany River joins the Rockaway River, a municipal engineer's roundtable breakfast (locations to be scouted out by Debbie McComber).
- The committee also looked at **2009 fall plans** such as a bike ride, scavenger hunt. We will have a 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration in the fall.
- **Watershed Signage**—Amy DiBartolo is working on this project.
- **Proposed speakers at upcoming meetings**— Art made some contacts with potential speakers as a moderator at the Passaic River Symposium on October 16. Rich Taubald suggested the NJ School of Conservation. Other considerations are the Sierra Club, Passaic River Coalition. We will reschedule the Native Plant Society. We will hold our annual WaterBucks celebration at the December 3<sup>rd</sup> AC meeting. Amy described the program and noted that there will be new gifts this year
- The second **WRWAC Annual Report** is being created.
- Everyone is welcome to attend the **Volunteer Monitoring and Education Summit** on November 17, 18 at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum.

#### **Nominating Committee**—*Brian Marshall*

- Amy DiBartolo, Jim Baranski and Brian make up the Nominating Committee.
- Louse Jensen retired as Vice Chair, so we need to replace her for the rest of 2008. Jim Baranski was proposed by Brian, seconded by Peg Adams and approved unanimously.
- An official slate for the Executive Committee will be proposed at the December AC meeting. Please contact a committee member with nominations.
- Jim Baranski is willing to serve as Vice Chair in 2009 if he receives help chairing the Outreach Committee.
- It was noted that members of the management group that *are not* selected by member towns are not eligible to vote at AC meetings. But all other input is welcome.

#### **No New Business**—Sal Iannaccone

**The meeting was adjourned at 6:55pm.**

**The next AC meeting is December 3, 2008. We will hold a WaterBucks celebration.**

**The next Executive Committee meeting is November 19, 2008.**

*Deborah McComber*