

West Deptford Environmental Commission April 15, 2013 Meeting

Committee Chair, Dave Sileo called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM

Approval of March meeting minutes by a unanimous vote.

Old Business:

- A. **ANJEC Membership** has been completed and the members can attend any of the ANJEC workshops free of charge. The members will receive email notification from ANJEC on these workshops.
- B. **Strawberry Vale Cleanup** was completed with a good turnout of over 20 individuals from the WD Boy Scouts, WD Junior Women's Club and others. Quite a few bags of trash were collected and hauled off by the trash department. The clean-up story will be posted on the website.
- C. **Citizen Recognition**—commission will contact a committeeman for those we wish to recognize. Dave Sileo moved that the commission recognize Ted Zander for his efforts raising awareness of the problems along the Delaware waterfront. Ed Komczyk seconded the motion. A vote of 5 yes/1 no carried the motion to recognize Mr. Zander. Ed Komczyk to handle communication to township committee
- D. **Composting**—Topic tabled
- E. **Partnering with other groups**—Dave Keller compiling list of contacts. Will utilize commission website to establish project registry enabling township residents to obtain information and volunteer for environmental projects.

New Business:

- A. **Planning Board Agenda**—Joe Nahaus is the commission's liaison to the Planning Board. He advised the commission as to how to obtain the agenda and document packets to review, from an environmental perspective, all requests submitted to the Planning Board.
- B. **GIS Mapping**—(part of the ERI). Wishlist item for the commission is to make a new ERI. Ed Komczyk to investigate whether original copy still available for review. The geology will not be outdated but land use will be outdated. Update of township maps for the GIS mapping may be necessary.
- C. **Environmental Collection at Library**—Ed Komczyk contacted librarian Cheryl Rymer. She will give us a tour and show us the library's environmental collection. Will plan this outing to coincide with a meeting and will take place prior to the meeting.
- D. **WDNJEC Website**—Dave Sileo obtained a domain www.WDNJEC.org He would like to go live this week. We received a grant from Slova Solaxis for the \$228/year needed to maintain the site. Solva Solaxis will have no say as to websites content. Will begin by posting stories, newsletter, projects & sign-up information, and known township environmental assets.
- E. **ANJEC Grant**—the grant is due April 19, 2013. Dave Sileo will write it. After discussion among commission members, it was decided that it might be better to hold off on submission, as it may hurt our cause more than help it since there isn't much time to prepare it. Dave Sileo (who has experience with grant writing) will continue working on the grant to see how it progresses.

Joe Nahaus added this Planning Board Agenda under New Business #A
The language is as follows:
In the absence of the Chair of the Commission Joe Nahaus will advise the Chair that the Commission has requested a copy of the approved application for review and that he (the Chair) should attempt to obtain it from the Zoning Office.

- F. NJ Department of Forestry Grant**—it was decided that this particular grant would be better suited for the West Deptford Tree Commission
- G. West Deptford Land Use map**-- information to be forwarded to commission members prior to next meeting.
- H. Adopt A Park Program**—a letter was received from Mayor Chintall. He would like our involvement with the Park Commission. This would involve helping with fundraising events or obtaining industry support for future projects.
- I. New Topics—**
- Other citizen recognitions discussed
 - Dave Keller moved to design a project registry for the commission website. Dave Sileo seconded the motion. Dave Sileo to design registry.
 - Long-term & short-term goals of the commission to be defined. For next meeting, each committee member to present three main objectives for discussion.
 - Long-term goal—new ERI
 - Short-term goal—community events
 - Ed Komczyk—presented information obtained from Michael Hogan and proposed we use his connection with the South Jersey Landtrust to work with us on projects.
 - Joe Nahaus—suggested adding the Planning Board Chair to our email list & vice versa. Dave Sileo will research items on the Planning Boards agendas.
 - Committeeman Sam Cianfarini presented some suggestions for the Strawberry Vale cleanup. He also liked the idea of the project registry system and offered some suggestions for its content. He also suggested establishing a budget. He informed the commission that the planning engineer has a map of hazardous sites.
- J. Presentation—**
- Troy DePrince gave a wonderful, informative presentation on the recycling program in West Deptford Township.

Dave Sileo moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 pm. Terri Wallowitch seconded the motion.