

**Environmental Commission**  
**Washington Township (WTEC - Morris Cty), New Jersey**  
**Minutes of November 7, 2005**  
( agenda attached)

Prepared by: Mark Napolitano, Chairman

I. Attendance:

Present: Mark Napolitano, Merv Haines, Paul Krylowksi, Frank Ferraro, CJ Sinko, Kim Kaiser (Township Committee)

Absent: Anthony LaVista, Bob Balsamo, Diedre Donnelly, Joel Wein

II. Minutes of October 3, 2005

Minutes were approved.

III. Soil Disturbance Ordinance

Mark passed out copies of the Final Soil Disturbance Ordinance that the WTEC received from the TWP (same as previous “unofficial” copy provided by Mark). Mark met with the TWP Administrator, Dianne Gallets, who stated that the WTEC comments on the draft ordinance were provided to the TWP Committee for discussion.

IV. Raritan-Highland Compact

Mark discussed October 6, 2005 Observer Tribune article regarding the multi-township Raritan-Highland Compact to address the Raritan River’s water quality, and asked Kim why the WTEC was not involved, especially since the WTEC samples the Raritan River for water quality and has data that would contribute to the Compact’s goals. Kim stated that the director of the Compact did not specifically request that Washington TWP include the WTEC. Mark informed Kim that the WTEC should be, and would like to be involved. Kim stated that Mark should write a letter to the TWP Committee stating so. NOTE: Mark subsequently met with Mayor Ken Short to discuss the Compact, and questioned why the WTEC had to learn of the Compact, which was formed over 1 year ago, through an Observer Tribune article. Mayor Short did not know why the TWP liaison did not convey this information to the WTEC, and stated that the WTEC should be involved. Mark will follow up with the Compact’s director and report back to Mayor Short.

V. Community Center Land Purchase

Mark asked Kim to provide an explanation of the 35 acre land purchase (a portion of the Scott Farm off West Mill Rd.), specifically with regard to farmland preservation and development rights purchased with Washington TPW open space trust funds. Kim explained that the development rights for the 35 acre site, which is planned for development by the TWP, were never purchased by the TWP.

VI. Vernal Pool Project

Paul and Merv conducted a site walk with Roger Reed from DPW on November 4, 2005, to identify the GPS coordinates of several suspected vernal pools. The site characteristics

and coordinates for Blk 44 Lots 5, 5.04, Blk 23 Lot 8.08, and Blk 34 Lot 50 were discussed. The coordinates, provided to Merv and Paul by Roger Reed, who operated the GPS unit, will be provided by Paul to all WTEC members via e-mail.

VII. Tanner's Brook Pond Dam

Mark discussed the project to repair the Tanner's Brook Pond Dam, and asked if anyone was interested in following up on the NJDEP application and determination of hazard classification. No interest at this time.

VIII. ANJEC Membership Info

Mark previously provided all contact information for WTEC members to ANJEC, so that each would receive hard copy and electronic mail from ANJEC directly. Members were asked to report to Mark that they are receiving information from ANJEC.

IX. WTEC Chairman for 2006 – 2008 Term

Mark has been Chairman of the WTEC for 3 years (as of Dec 05) and asked if any members are interested in being appointed as Chairman by the TWP mayor. No interest at this time.

X. Other Issues

1.) As a follow-up to the WTEC discussions pertaining to the Soil Disturbance Ordinance, Frank provided DEP data regarding Soil Cleanup Criteria, as well a sample of a soil sample analysis report.

2.) Kim suggested that the WTEC write a letter to the Boy and Girl Scouts requiring them to present all scout project proposals to the WTEC prior to them presenting their proposal to other TWP organizations, e.g., recreation dept, TWP committee. WTEC members agreed with the process change, but Mark disagreed with the WTEC authoring and sending the letter, stating that the letter should come from the TWP Committee, signed by the Mayor.

VI. Next Meeting: 11/15/05

VII. Meeting Adjourned.