

Washington Township Environmental Commission (WTEC)
(Morris Cty), New Jersey
Minutes of May 02, 2006 7:30 PM Meeting
(Agenda attached)

Prepared by: Mark Napolitano, Acting Chairman

I. Attendance:

Present: Mark Napolitano, Anthony LaVista, Merv Haines, Valerie Walsh

Absent: Bob Balsamo, Frank Ferraro, CJ Sinko, Kathy Smith, Ken Short (Township Committee liaison)

II. Approval of April 3, 2006 Meeting Minutes: Minutes of 04/03/06 were approved.

III. Distribution of Future Meeting Minutes It was suggested by Mark and unanimously agreed that meeting minutes will be prepared and distributed to WTEC members by the acting chairman within 15 calendar days following the date of the meeting. Mark commented that the WTEC minutes for the March 2006 meeting had not been posted on the WTEC web page. Merv, acting chairman for March, stated that he will follow-up.

IV. Need for Filing System with Rotating Chairmanship Since WTEC members on a rotating basis serve as acting chairman, correspondence received in the TWP's WTEC mailbox is collected by a different person each month. This has created a problem with respect to all correspondence for a given subject being disbursed amongst two or more WTEC members. Items XV and XVI below pertaining to soil disturbance applications are two examples of this problem. Mark suggested and it was unanimously agreed that each WTEC member who receives the correspondence from the WTEC mailbox will create a file folder for the given subject in the WTEC filing cabinet located in the TWP Municipal Building. All correspondence pertaining to a given subject will be placed in the appropriate file folder by each rotating acting chairman. Mark will set up initial folders based on topics, e.g., LOIs, Highlands Act Applicability Determinations, etc. As the amount of correspondence builds for each topic, separate folders will be established for a particular a Block and Lot, when the number of separate pieces of correspondence for a given Block and Lot exceeds three.

V. Proposal to Discontinue 3rd Tuesday Monthly Meetings The last 3rd Tuesday of the month regular WTEC meeting was held on November 15th, 2005, chaired by Mark. Based on lack of need, each rotating WTEC acting chairman for the last five months has cancelled the 3rd Tuesday of the month regular meeting. Mark suggested and it was unanimously agreed that the WTEC will no longer hold regular monthly meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Mark will notify the TWP of the change.

VI. SBWA 2006 Membership Dues As a follow-up to the voucher that Mark had prepared and submitted to the TWP last month for the payment of 2006 SBWA membership dues, Mark stated that he subsequently signed an invoice authorizing payment, and that the SBWA had been paid \$150.00 from the WTEC membership dues account.

VII. SBWA Stream Clean-up Mark contacted the SBWA regarding WTEC involvement. Mark and Valerie informed the SBWA that they were available to volunteer. WTEC was assigned a location in Clinton NJ. Mark's requested follow-up information from the SBWA, but was not answered, and due to the rain it was not clear if the clean-up had been postponed.

VIII. Raritan Highlands Compact Meeting follow-up – April 27 – Chester Information on the subject meeting was discussed, including open space maps provided to each TWP and a presentation on the need to adopt a mitigation plan for stormwater.

IX. URWA Ecology Meeting – May 3 Upcoming meeting and lecture by herpetologist/wildlife ecologist was discussed. Main topic of discussion will be the general ecology of the bog and wood turtle.

X. ANJEC GIS Workshop – May 4 Invitation to workshop was discussed, as it might pertain to the WTEC vernal pool project.

XI. MCA-NJ Partnership Meeting – May 9 – Lebanon Meeting agenda information was discussed pertaining to roles of TWP members and a strategy to investigate highlands act exemptions for conservation opportunities. Merv plans to attend.

XII. Rutgers - Onsite Wastewater Systems Training – May 9 & 10 Training opportunity pertaining to the design, installation, and maintenance of onsite wastewater systems and associated best practices standards and local ordinances was discussed.

XIII. URWA Stream Monitoring Training – May 20 Training opportunity regarding the collection of water samples was discussed. Training facilitates URWA volunteer stream monitoring program which is similar to the SBWA's.

XIV. URWA 15th Annual Bird-A-Thon – May 20 URWA fundraising event was discussed. Opportunity to participate in a day-long bird-watching session, with donation being pledged for each specie of bird observed under the guidance of 4 expert birders.

XV. Soil Disturbance – Block 58 Lot 17 - Frog Hollow Rd. A Stop Construction Order for the subject property, issued by the Morris County Soil Conservation District, was discussed. The MCSCD is requiring a Certified Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plan. Note that this soil disturbance activity has been the subject of prior WTEC meetings, and the WTEC is unaware of a soil disturbance application being submitted to the TWP as was requested.

XVI. Soil Disturbance – 4/7/06 follow-up - Block 28 Lots 46 & 47 – Fairview Ave. TWP engineer comments dated April 7, 2006 on the soil disturbance application for Regency at Long Valley I were discussed. The application proposes to export 2,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil and import 7,000 cubic yards from Estates at Long Valley, Section I. Merv had received the soil disturbance application while serving as acting chairman and prepared WTEC comments last March. Mark requested to see application and WTEC comments. Merv will follow up and place all correspondence in the WTEC filing cabinet.

XVII. Soil Disturbance – 4/7/06 follow-up - Block 18.01 Lot 5 – Ridgeline Dr.

TWP engineer comments dated April 7, 2006 on soil disturbance application for Toll NJ IV, Estates at Long Valley, Section I were discussed. The application proposes to export 10,000 cubic yards of soil to Allamuchy TWP and Regency at Long Valley. Merv had received the soil disturbance application while serving as acting chairman and prepared WTEC comments last March. Mark requested to see application and WTEC comments. Merv will follow up and place all correspondence in the WTEC filing cabinet.

XVIII. Vernal Pool Project Mark had communicated with Paul Krylowski regarding WTEC costs associated with the project, so that the amount of matching ANJEC funds required could be finalized and disbursed. Mark requested to Paul that he provide ANJEC with his total costs, as the WTEC did not have any. The project was discussed, and it was agreed that the project effort was completed and that a final report should be prepared and submitted to ANJEC.

XIX. NJMunicipalGIS information email group Invitation to join GIS e-mail group was discussed. E-mail group is conduit for information regarding grant opportunities, job openings, GIS information, etc. Availability of free Digital Parcel Mapping Handbook was discussed.

XX. Riparian Buffer Conservation Zone Model Ordinance Model ordinance provided by the Passaic River Coalition and the NJDEP was discussed. The intent of the Coalition effort is to encourage TWPs to adopt an ordinance to protect riparian lands adjacent to streams, rivers, lakes, and other surface water bodies. Due to the fact that Washington TWP's waterways for the most part involve Category I waters, it was decided not to pursue suggesting a riparian buffer conservation zone ordinance.

XXI. Distribution of Tax Maps Mark had requested and received additional tax maps from the TWP for distribution to WTEC members that did not have one. Maps are used

to facilitate surface water quality sampling and application reviews received from the Planning Board. A tax map was provided to Valerie.

XXII. Surface Water Quality Testing – June 13 Sampling date was confirmed, and Mark will arrange for sampling materials to be obtained from certified laboratory, Waterworks. Also, Mark had contacted the certified laboratory that the WT Health Department uses for water samples, Aqua Pro-Tech in Fairfield NJ, to determine if the WTEC could save money on the cost of each sample analysis. Aqua Pro-Tech's lowest cost for the analysis for fecal choliform, nitrates, and phosphates is \$60.00, which is \$15.00 more expensive than Waterworks.

XXIII. Other Correspondence for the Record Correspondence items below were discussed, and Mark placed the relevant documents in the WTEC file cabinet for reference.

Request for LOI – Block 24 Lot 59 – Fairmont Rd.

Request for LOI – Block 18 Lots 2, 3, 8, 21, 21.04, 27,27.05, 29, 29.01 – Bartley Rd.

Request for LOI – Block 61 Lots 6, 17.02, 19, 20 & 21 – Black River Rd.

Highlands Applicability Determination Application – Schooley's Mt. Rd

Highlands Applicability Determination Application – Culvert

Highlands Applicability Determination Application – Block 22 Lot 28

Highlands Applicability Determination Application – Block 33 Lot 87

Stream Encroachment Application – Block 19 Lots 5,6,&7

Highlands Applicability & WQMP Consistency Review Block 22 Lots 3.03 & 3.27 – Harrington Park

XXIV. Minor Subdivision Application – Block 51 Lot 23 - Califon Rd. Messina application for minor subdivision on Califon Rd. was discussed. Drawings of new proposed 5 acre lot indicate that the lot encroaches on wetlands area, however, drawing note states that there are no wetlands or wetlands transition areas on or within 150 feet of the proposed new lot. TWP engineering review will resolve.

XXV. Other Issues No other issues were discussed. No one was present from the public.

XXVI. Meeting Adjourned – Next Meeting June 5, 2006.