# WEST SENECA ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION (WSEC) MEETING MINUTES Tuesday, April 26, 2016 at 7:00 PM

# Burchfield Nature & Art Center (BNAC) - 2001 Union Rd., West Seneca

#### I. CALL TO ORDER @ 7:08 PM

#### II. ATTENDANCE

Members: Evelyn Hicks (EH), Chair, Rick Rutkowski (RR), Vice-Chair, Lauren Masset (LM), Mike Wass (MW), Camie Jarrell (CJ)

Associate Members: Richard Corbetta (RC), Matt Poole (MP), Emily Baker (EB)

West Seneca Town Board Liaison: Eugene Hart (GH), William Hanley (WH)

Excused/Absent: Karl Spencer (KS), Dave Monolopolus (DM), Jim Caruso (JC), Matthew Roche (MR)

#### III. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

1. Meeting Minutes – March 2016

LM motion to approve MM, seconded by MW AYES: ALL QUESTION: NONE

Motion Carried

2. 2016 Budget

- o Current Town WSEC \$1259.26
- Current National Fish and Wildlife Federation \$2,710.96
- Current US Fish & Wildlife Service \$29,000.00 (designated for purchase of 2735 Clinton St.)

NOS: NONE

Motion by RR, Seconded by LM to allocate \$100.00 for supplies for the Rain Barrel Project.

AYES: ALL

QUESTION: NONE

NOS: NONE

Motion Carried

Motion by LM, Seconded by RR to allocate \$75.00 for supplies Community Garden at Veterans Memorial Park.

AYES: ALL QUESTION: NONE NOS: NONE

Motion Carried

#### 3. Correspondence

- Dan Bauer: Shade magazine that will be shared with intern regarding projects.
- EH had a conversation with a resident who is concerned about the Zika virus in West Seneca. EH reached out to the DEC regarding larvicide at Oxbow standing water.
- Thursday May 5, 2016 Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy event <u>Pruning</u> to Industry Standards.

- 4. Office None
- 5. 2015 Annual Report None
- 6. Memberships

At the Town Board meeting on April 11, 2016 Camie Jarrell was appointed to fill Joyce Mallette's unexpired term ending December 31, 2016. Further, Emily Baker, Matthew Poole, and Rich Corbetta were appointed as Associate Members.

#### IV. WSEC PROJECTS - UPDATES/DISCUSSION

- Oxbow (2805 Clinton St.) River Academy will be at the Oxbow on 4/30 to do planting and seeding. Canisius is looking to put something together before the end of the semester as well.
- EH reports an ATV issue. Chief Denz advised the group puts up signage regarding this issue. EH suggested signs similar to those that are posted at other Town parks. RR suggests the use of barriers (i.e. jersey barriers) to prevent vehicle access.
- 2. 2735 Clinton Street The property was purchased by Gregory and Doug Phillips. The Town of West Seneca may purchase the Oxbow Wetland Property and part of the buffer zone, adjoining both Town owned parcels on the Western edge.
- 3. Subcommittee reports:
  - o Tree Issues Subcommittee EH reports that Jordan Juzdowski (intern) will begin in May, See Exhibit A to assist with Tree Ordinance outreach items.
  - Creek Awareness Subcommittee On May 17, 2016 EH and KS will present the Creek Awareness and Safety Presentation to the 7th graders at West Seneca West Middle School.
  - o Water Quality Issues Subcommittee
    - Canoe/Kayak launch site (880 Harlem Rd.) MW discusses concerns regarding canoe/kayak launch site plans with NYSDOT. RR to provide MW with additional contact information.
    - Rain barrels (3) installed at BNAC Childrens Memorial Park & Library barrels to be installed in the near future. Hardware will be needed for fabrication of additional barrels.
    - Storm drain marking program project to start in May. adhesive needed for project. Estimated 500 locations have been previously marked, 100 additional to be marked this year.

## 4. 2016 Projects -

- Possible development of public outreach of WSEC activities to residents during 2016 BNAC events.
- o Earth Day (April 23) Creek clean up event scheduled at BNAC. Camie Jarrel reported that she was the Site Captain on Ridge Road. There were 15 volunteers at this location. EH reported MR was the Site Captain at BNAC. There were 50 volunteers and West Seneca Youth Engaged in Service members were present.
- o National Night Out (August 2) at Southgate Plaza.
- Americana Music Fest: This Land is your Land. –BNAC (August 28 Noon 6 p.m.)

#### V. OTHER PROJECTS

- 1. Cazenovia Creek Wildlife Area Status Quo
- 2. National Grid Gardenville Station Upgrade (885 Indian Church Rd.) Permits received, soil borings initiated.
- 3. 3254 Clinton St. new build (Shell Fab & Design) RR to review site plans/SEQR (on May 12 planning Board agenda)
- 4. Tim Hortons on Indian Church/Union KS attended 4/14/16 Planning Board meeting, zoning change from C-1 to C-2 has been approved. Also, resident expressed concerns about flooding at Slade Ave. The Ellicott Development plan tabled.

### VI. ISSUES OF THE PUBLIC

- WH reports on NYS Public Service Commission Clean Energy Standard Program.
- 2. May 24, 2016 the NYS DEC will be doing a floodplain training session.
- The West Seneca Comprehensive Plan which was approved at the West Seneca Town Board Meeting on 4/25/2016 includes a section on Wildlife Management plan. Added as long term goal for WSEC. See: Wildlife Management Plan by Clemson University GH requests possible cost for this, to report to Connie Miner to look for possible grants.
- 4. Rich Corbetta to attend a meeting on May 14, 2016 on Invasive Species hosted by Cornell Cooperative Extension. He will provide a report to WSEC.
- 5. EH reports Joyce Mallette (previous member) spent many hours with Lawn Care Companies educating them on the laws and dangers of pesticides.

Meeting adjourned - 8:33 p.m.

Next Meeting – May 24