

W. SENECA ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 28, 2016 at 7:00 PM

Burchfield Nature & Art Center – 2001 Union Rd., West Seneca

I. CALL TO ORDER – 7:02 p.m.

II. ATTENDANCE

Present: Rick Rutkowski (RR), Vice-Chair, Karl Spencer (KS), Jim Caruso (JC), Lauren Masset (LM), Matthew Roche (MR)

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

West Seneca Town Board Liaison: Gene Hart (GH)

Absent/Excused: Camie Jarrell (CJ), Mike Wass (MW), Evelyn Hicks (EH), Dave Monopolus (DM)

III. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

1. Meeting Minutes – May 2016 – tabled
2. 2016 Budget – JC e-mailed budget information to members prior to the meeting, and reported:
 - WSEC budget balance - \$1242.30
 - National Fish and Wildlife Federation - \$2,710.96
 - US Fish & Wildlife Service - \$28,310.00
3. Correspondence - none
4. Office – status quo
5. 2015 Annual Report – status quo – RR advocates that members “keep track” of their activities as they complete them on a form – he will send **2016 - TABLE OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS** to members so that members can document activities

IV. WSEC PROJECTS - UPDATES/DISCUSSION

1. Oxbow (2805 Clinton St.) – status quo
2. 2735 Clinton St. – survey completed by consultant to subdivide property for purchase by Town (previously approved by Town Board) – survey information sent to Town Attorney for legal requirements necessary for purchase – RR suggests that a news release be prepared/sent to news media when property transaction has been completed – **purpose** – to inform the public of acquisition, advise them that it is a “passive nature sanctuary” for wildlife, enhancement of native plant species, etc.
3. Subcommittee reports:
 - Tree Issues Subcommittee – KS reports that he and EH met with Jordan Juzdowski (intern) to initiate letter to commercial tree specialists for the purpose of soliciting experts that will perform review of new development applications to ensure compliance with the Town’s Tree Ordinance
 - Creek Awareness Subcommittee – “thank you” letter received from M. Bystrak (Principal – W. Seneca West H.S.) for presentations delivered to students by WSEC
 - Water Quality Issues Subcommittee:

- Canoe/Kayak launch site (880 Harlem Rd.) – 6/3 - MW met with NYSDOT representatives – discussed modifications to improve stability of site after construction is complete
 - Storm drain marking program – “permission” letter to mark drains received from Town Eng. Dept., press release sent to K. Snickles (editor - W. Sen. Bee, The Sun), 84 medallions affixed to 15 streets by RR, JC, MW
 - Rain Barrel distribution program – 4 barrels provided by DM (stored at 2735 Clinton St.) – 6 rain barrels at site ready for distribution
 - Municipal Rain Barrels – Ken Hansen installed 2 rain barrels at Children's Memorial Park, W. Sen. Bldgs. & Grounds staff installed 1 rain barrel at Library
 - W. Seneca 2015 Stormwater Annual Report - RR reports that stormwater related activities completed by WSEC members in 2015 were not incorporated into the Town's 2015 Annual Report
4. 2016 Projects –:
- possible development of public outreach of WSEC activities to residents during 2016 BNAC events – status quo – RR will contact Carol Yetter to discuss
 - National Night Out (Aug. 2) at Southgate Plaza – RR advised by ECDEP staff that they would provide staff to display stormwater related materials

V. OTHER PROJECTS

1. Proposed Croglio Subdivision – WSEC members reviewed SEQR/site plan - comments provided to Planning Board

VI. ISSUES OF THE PUBLIC

1. RC reports that he, EH, EB, LM, and MP planted flowers at Veteran's Memorial at Town Hall
2. GH provides (new) library construction timetable - (construction bid – Aug 2016; start of construction – Sept 2016; Library completion – 2018)

Meeting adjourned – 7:20 p.m.

Next meeting – July 26