

W. SENECA ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, August 23, 2011
Burchfield Nature and Arts Center (BNAC)
2001 Union Road, West Seneca

I. CALL TO ORDER – 7:02 P.M.

II. ATTENDANCE

Present: Evelyn Hicks (EH), Rick Rutkowski (RR), Joyce Mallette (JM),
Dave Monopolus (DM,) Gary Oosterhoudt (GO), George Rockey (GR),
Sheila Meegan (SM), Paula Olma (PO)

Absent: Jack Oshei (JO)

Guests: Dennis Janis – 107 Lakeside Dr., W. Seneca & Kathy Zimmerman,
33 Emerald, W. Seneca (both saw notice in the Metro Community News)

III. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

1. July 2011 meeting minutes were reviewed, corrected, accepted by the commission members
2. Financial/Treasurer's report - current balance - \$2659.00 (status quo since last month) – EH said that a reimbursement check for \$200.00 was rec'd from Sustainable Earth Solutions for students that attended the Environmental Youth Summit (March 4-5) – will be submitted to Town
3. Correspondence:
 - Invitation to attend US Areas of Concern Program annual meeting in Detroit, Mi.
 - announcement of grant opportunity from NYSDEC
 - letter from US Fish & Wildlife Service to use monies (approx. \$29,000) currently set aside for 1030 Orchard Park Rd. to purchase a portion of 2735 Clinton St. (western arm of oxbow)
4. Office - EH has purchased a computer monitor and projector (cost - \$538.16) – she has not yet purchased the camera – voucher for \$911.22 has been submitted to Town for payment (includes \$373.06 for travel reimbursement to Detroit for July 29 Sustain Our Great Lakes awards ceremony)
5. Membership/Associate members – JM has not rec'd any responses to the advertisement in the West Seneca Pennysaver – she will run the ad again

IV. MEMBERS PROJECTS – UPDATES/DISCUSSION

1. Oxbow Property (2805 Clinton St) — EH, JO, Ms. Oshei attended Sustain Our Great Lakes Awards ceremony (Detroit, Mi. - 7/29/2011)
2. Serafini Property (2735 Clinton St) – EH, GR to meet with Sarah Fleming in Batavia on Sept. 1 to continue discussions for obtaining funds from Ducks Unlimited
3. Storm Drain Stenciling – RR reports of the following stenciling activity:
 - 7/28 – Article re: storm drain stenciling published in West Seneca Bee
 - 8/4, 8/22 – 44 storm drains stenciled on Eastwood, Southwood, Woodward, Hybank, Belmont, Leacliff, and Creekview Dr.

Case of paint completely used up – RR requests additional funds (est. \$60.00) to purchase additional case of paint – members approved. Will notify members of additional dates/times for future activities

4. Sewer District 13 workshop – approx 40 people attended to discuss issues re: sanitary sewer problems – SM reports that Senator Gillibrand mentioned possible funding for repairs from sources other than Town Govt.
5. Library Display – JM will look into obtaining photos for the collage, as discussed at earlier meetings. EH to obtain camera for photos – RR advised that photos of storm drain stenciling activities may be available from West Seneca Bee staff, Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper – members approved spending of up to \$100.00 for photo development.
6. Ludwig Ave. Creek Access – nothing to report
7. Leydecker Rd. Creek Access – no report
8. West Seneca Night Out (Aug 2) –DM, JM, JO, PO attended, reported a successful event – 1 person signed up on the volunteer sheet

V. DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

1. 2735 Clinton St - Town Board members voted not to send application to change zoning (from residential to commercial) at 2735 Clinton to the Town Planning Board at 8/22/11 Board Meeting
2. Houghton College (810 Union Rd.) – no report
3. 1200 East & West Rd. – status quo

VI. CONTINUING PROJECTS FOR 2011

1. 1030 Orchard Park Rd – status quo since last meeting

VII. FUTURE PROJECTS

1. EH would like the WSEC to evaluate the Town's recycling & composting programs (no discussion today – “on hold”)
2. EH suggests that the WSEC monitor the problem caused by the emerald ash borer to ash trees in the Town

Meeting adjourned – 8:50 P.M.