

WEST SENECA ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, September 22, 2015 at 7:00 PM
Burchfield Nature & Art Center – 2001 Union Rd., West Seneca

I. CALL TO ORDER @ 7:00 PM

II. ATTENDANCE

Members: Evelyn Hicks (EH), Chair, Rick Rutkowski (RR), Vice-Chair, Joyce Mallette (JM), Karl Spencer (KS), Dave Monopolus (DM), Jim Caruso (JC), Lauren Masset (LM)

Associate Member: Mike Wass (MW), Camie Jarrell (CJ)

Member Emerita: Paula Olma (PO)

Excused: Steve Kondrak

Absent: Jack Oshei

West Seneca Town Board: Councilman Eugene Hart (GH)

Motion to close at 8:45 PM by RR seconded by KS

AYES: ALL

QUESTION: NONE
Motion Carried

NOS: NONE

III. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

1. Meeting Minutes – July 2015

AYES: ALL

Motion to table MM by DM seconded by JM
QUESTION: NONE
Motion Carried

NOS: NONE

2. 2015 Budget

EH reports a \$400.00 invoice to Holt Appraisals for 2735 Clinton Street. In addition to an invoice from Almetek Industries INC for \$147.35. There is an estimated \$350.00 in the budget after these invoices are processed.

3. Correspondence

EH reports NFWF National Fish and Wildlife Foundation notifying that there are some filing requirements that would be needed. WSEC is under the threshold, no further action is needed.

Received and Filed

JM reports Detective Lieutenant William Lietzel sent a letter thanking WSEC for their participation National Night Out.

4. Office – Status Quo

IV. WSEC MEMBER PROJECTS - UPDATES/DISCUSSION

1. Oxbow (2805 Clinton St.)

EH reports the portion the town owns is still in adequate shape. However, there are invasives that do require attention. Phragmites are encroaching West to the East. The treatment plan the group has been using has not been the most effective. After the second parcel is obtained further treatment options can be discussed (such as RODEO). EH reminds the group if anyone would like to volunteer their time at the Oxbow tree wrapping is needed.

2. 2735 Clinton St.

Discussion ensued regarding the acquisition of the property.

3. Subcommittee reports:

· Tree Issues Subcommittee

KS reports a list of arborists is still needed.

GH gives an update that the Freezer Queen property has significant trees on the property which is for sale.

KS questions if there is anything we can do to ensure the law is being followed and enforced.

EH attended a workshop with the DEC for grants - Trees for Tribs (Tributaries).

· Creek Awareness Subcommittee

KS contacted WS West Middle school re: EC Rain Barrel Painting contest - no reply received – will follow up and ask about upcoming Creek Awareness presentation

· Water Quality Issues Subcommittee:

- Microbeads in Cosmetics

Erie County law passed - bans the sale of cosmetics containing microbeads beginning in early 2016.

GH attended an Erie County Water Quality Issues meeting (LEWPA) where they discussed this issue.

- Rain Barrels – 6 barrels were delivered. A list of recipients was provided to RR.

Motion to increase allocated money for Rain Barrel supplies to \$150 by RR seconded by JC

AYES: ALL

QUESTION: NONE

NOS: NONE

Motion Carried

- Municipal Rain Barrels
- Storm Drain Medallions - RR, JC affixed 91 medallions to 14 town streets – (RR purchased 2 wire brushes, 4 tubes adhesive for project (cost - \$22.90)
- Water Quality Issues slideshow – Status Quo
- Illicit Discharges (Cazenovia Creek) – Status Quo
- Canoe/Kayak launch site (880 Harlem Rd.)– Status Quo

4. Library Display

Four rain barrels given away to residents during July 2015

5. National Night Out (8/4)

booth staffed by RR, JC, DM, EH, MW, JM – 1 rain barrel given away at “Night Out” event.

6. Creek Clean up

September 19, 2015 - JO did a Cazenovia Creek clean up at Orchard Park and Ridge Road.

7. 2016 Projects

RR spoke to Carol Yetter about Burchfield Nature and Art Center event. RR suggests having a table display. EH reminds the group that it would have to be based off of our volunteer availability, each date would need to be pre-planned and topics/materials need to be created and developed.

V. OTHER PROJECTS

1. W. Seneca Developmental Center (1200 East & West Rd.)

JC sent pictures of the signage of the Cazenovia Refuge Wildlife Management Area.

2. National Grid Gardenville Station Upgrade

Work has been temporarily stopped due to hitting a Methane Gas pocket that was hit.

3. 2544 Clinton St. (Freezer Queen Site) - *Status Quo*

4. EC Rain Barrel Painting Contest

RR discussed contest, lack of past participation from WS school system with EC Dept of Env. & Planning staff, and contacted WS Central School District for possible participation in 2016.

5. Grants

EH states she attended a workshop for a new initiative “Becoming a Climate Smart Community” more information can be found [here](#). EH asks the group if anyone would be willing to take a look at the website and see if the Town qualifies and if so will register the Town. CJ asks what the value in this is. EH replies that you have to be a participant to qualify for certain grants. GH reports that he believes that data is there for the report. EH states this would entail 100+ hours

to pull the information, enter into the form and assess what the Town can do moving forward. EH states that the Town needs to take the steps to do this and officially register the Town as a Climate Smart Community. GH requests that the WSEC puts together a summary and benefits of the program for the Town Board. RR and JC to work on this and submit to EH for review for the WSEC member to finalize next month for submission to the Town Board.

VI. ISSUES OF THE PUBLIC

GH to meet with Erie County Highway Department on October 14, 2015 in regards to East & West Road reconstruction. The Town will request sidewalks on both sides from Orchard Park Road to Leydecker Road. EH to prepare a street tree recommendation list for the project.

Motion to adjourn at 8:40 by RR, seconded by KS

AYES: ALL

QUESTION: NONE

NOS: NONE

Motion Carried

The next meeting will be October 27, 2015 at 7:00 PM at the Burchfield Nature and Art Center 2001 Union Road West Seneca, NY 14224