

WEST SENECA ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, Aug. 22, 2017 at 7:00 PM

Christian Metz Home – 12 School St., West Seneca

I. CALL TO ORDER – 7:00 P.M.

II. ATTENDANCE

Evelyn Hicks (EH) Chair, Rick Rutkowski (RR) Vice-Chair, Lauren Masset (LM), Karl Spencer (KS), Dave Monopolopolus (DM), Amy Kobler (AK), Emily Baker (EB)
Excused: Jim Caruso (JC), Camie Jarrell (CJ), Matthew Roche (MR), Mike Wass (MW), Matt Poole (MP)

Town Board Members: Bill Hanley (BH), Gene Hart (GH)

Guest: Tim Elling

III. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

1. Meeting Minutes – July 2017 – accepted & approved by members
2. 2017 WSEC Budget – \$1436.16
Town Environmental funds:
 - National Fish and Wildlife Federation - \$2,710.96
 - US Fish & Wildlife Service - \$29,000.00
 - National Grid Mitigation Fund - \$61,000Budget reviewed, accepted & approved by members
3. Correspondence – letter received from WNY Land Conservancy re: meeting with residents to obtain opinions about conservation concerns and ideas
4. Office – construction not completed
5. 2015, 2016 Annual Reports – status quo

IV. WSEC PROJECTS - UPDATES/DISCUSSION

1. Oxbow (2805 Clinton St.) – status quo –
2. 2735 Clinton St. – status quo
3. Standing Subcommittee reports:
 - Tree Issues Subcommittee – WSEC assisted with Code Enforcement policy concerning hazard trees in Conservation areas in the Town
 - Creek Awareness Subcommittee – EH spoke with Town Disaster Coordinator John Gullo re: plans for positioning “mile markers” along Buffalo Creek to prepare for any (future episodes of) necessary emergency rescue situations
 - By-Laws Subcommittee – status quo
 - Water Quality Issues Subcommittee:
 - Buffalo Creek Canoe/Kayak Launch – 880 Harlem Rd. - RR e-mailed Brian Kirby (NYSDOT) re: signage for site, viability of public announcement – DOT needs to discuss with upper management to decide timeliness of same
 - Rain Barrels – 1 provided to AK
 - Municipal Rain Barrels – status quo
 - Storm Drain Marking – RR installed 78 medallions at storm drains on 16 Town streets (provides educational information to residents for protection of local creeks)

V. 2017 MEMBER PROJECTS

1. Student Recycling after Sporting Events – EB mentioned that, since school hasn't yet started, no opportunities were available yet – discussion ensued – EH requested that EB outline a proposal for this program for the schools
2. Public Outreach & Education re: Household Recycling – AK reported that recycling poster remains on bulletin board at Town Hall, no information available yet on Erie County website re: rain barrel painting contest
3. National Night Out (Aug.1) – WSEC members staffing the table were EH, RR, MW, DM, AK, MP – rain barrel raffle recipients were John Gullo, Ed Bedient – stuffed animals attracted many people to our display table (animals, supplies stored at Christian Metz Home after the event).

VI. OTHER PROJECTS

1. 162 Slade Ave. - KS advised EH that site plan was tabled – no arborist tree plan yet

VII. ISSUES OF THE PUBLIC

1. Deer Control – EH spoke with Police Chief Denz – she has initiated a draft letter (will be circulated for members review/comments) to respond to this issue - RR provided info re: deer resistant plants for letter

Next meeting – Sept 26

Adjourned – 8:01 P.M.