

WEST SENECA ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 26, 2019 at 7:00 PM

Christian Metz Home – 12 School St., West Seneca

I. CALL TO ORDER – 7:01 p.m.

II. ATTENDANCE

Rick Rutkowski (RR) Vice-Chair, Mike Wass (MW), Lauren Masset (LM), Emily Baker (EB)

Excused/Absent: Evelyn Hicks (EH), Camie Jarrell, (CJ), Karl Spencer (KS), Amy Kobler (AK), Aubrey Murphy (AM), Matthew Roche (MR)

III. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

1. Members/appointments officers/duties – selection of officers/duties tabled – RR suggested that we search for a youth member, as MR has not been present at a meeting for 1+ years – EB will send an e-mail to the Key Club and Science Club at W. Seneca West HS to inform them of the opportunity to participate in programs with the WSEC, as well as to possibly have a student become a youth member.
2. Meeting Minutes – Jan. 2019 – tabled (no quorum present for meeting)
3. Financial Report – (as per MW, and verified by Finance Dept.)
 - 2019 WSEC Budget – \$1500.00
 - Town Environmental funds:
 - National Fish and Wildlife Federation (NFWF) - \$2,710.96**
 - US Fish & Wildlife Service - \$29,000.00**
 - National Grid Mitigation Fund - \$61,000.00**

** Awaiting verification from Finance Dept.

Financial report tabled

4. Correspondence – none
5. 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 Annual Reports – status quo
6. Office – 1/21/19 organization – LM reported that EH has “tagged” WSEC materials for proper storage locations, to be moved by Town Buildings and Grounds staff

IV. WSEC PROJECTS - UPDATES/DISCUSSION

1. Oxbow (2805 Clinton St.) – status quo
2. Standing Subcommittee reports:
 - Tree Issues Subcommittee – KS advised (via e-mail) that a date has not yet been set for the Tree Issues Subcommittee/Planning Board meeting – proposed development of Guide Booklet – status quo
 - Creek Awareness Subcommittee –EB will send an e-mail to the Key Club and Science Club at W. Seneca West HS to determine their interest in receiving a **Creek Awareness and Safety in West Seneca** presentation
 - Education Subcommittee:
 - Deer Management – development of proposed “position paper” – status quo
 - Residential Recycling – RR will contact Joe Hickman (Modern Recycling) to obtain updated Residential Recycling Guidance document
 - Butterfly/Pollinator Garden – AK advised that she spoke with Jim Manley – he approved gardening in 2 plots (Walkway of Freedom) at Town Hall – LM suggested purchase of caterpillar larvae for the garden

- Water Quality Issues Subcommittee – RR will prepare the 2018 Water Quality Issues Table of accomplishments, and will distribute to members and to Town Board
 - Buffalo Creek Canoe/Kayak Launch – 880 Harlem Rd. – status quo
 - Residential Rain Barrels – status quo
 - Municipal Rain Barrels – status quo
 - Storm Drain Marking – RR advised that 72 Town streets remain to be marked with storm drain medallions – currently, 200 medallions, 3 tubes adhesive are stored for 2019 project

V. OTHER EVENTS

1. 2019 Shoreline Sweep – May 11 (10 a.m. – noon) LB, EM to work at Buffalo Creek site, RR to work at Cazenovia Creek site
2. National Night Out - Aug. 6

VI. TOWN DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

1. Carriage Lane Townhomes (2730 Transit Rd.) – (proposed) 38 townhomes – MW met with J. Scheiber (Town Code Enforcement Officer) at 2/14 Planning Board meeting and discussed possible costs associated with tree removal/replacement – the Tree Ordinance (compliance) issue was tabled at that meeting.

VII. ISSUES OF THE PUBLIC

1. EC Soil and Water Conservation District – Annual Tree & Shrub Seedling Program - <https://www.ecswcd.org/html/treeshrub.html>
2. Research experiment – re: Polar Vortex may be responsible for decrease in Invasive Insect Species – LM provided news article

Adjourned – 7:40 p.m.