

WEST SENECA ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, August 24, 2021 at 7:00 PM
West Seneca Community Center – 1300 Union Rd., West Seneca

CALL TO ORDER – 7:04 p.m.

I. ATTENDANCE

Evelyn Hicks (EH) Chair, Rick Rutkowski (RR) Vice-Chair, Cynn timer Gaasch (CG),
Excused/Absent: Mike Wass (MW), Jacqueline Balikowski (JB), Lauren Masset
(LM), Emily Masset (EM), Tracy Skalski (TS)
Guest: Susan Kims
(No quorum for meeting)

II. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

1. Meeting Minutes — March 2021, July 2021 - tabled
2. Financial Report –
 - 2020 WSEC Working Budget –\$1226.93
Town Environmental funds:
 - National Fish and Wildlife Federation (NFWF) – \$2,710.76
 - US Fish & Wildlife Service - \$29,000.00
 - National Grid Mitigation Fund - \$61,000.00

III. WSEC PROJECTS - UPDATES/DISCUSSION

1. Standing Subcommittee reports:
 - Tree Issues Subcommittee – MW will ID tree planting locations at Town properties (as per Young Development settlement), will provide to Code Enforcement Officer – EH advises that planting is expected in Sept./Oct. – Also, EH would like to initiate a Tree Smart Community amongst residents
 - Water Quality Issues Subcommittee:
 - Storm Drain Marking – project completed - duration – 9 years – 269 Town streets marked with 1,380 storm drain medallions
2. New WSEC Grant opportunities - CG provided the following:
 - The Ralph C. Wilson Legacy Funds
 - Recreational Trails program
 - Environmental Protection Funds Grants Program for Parks, Preservation and Heritage Parks Program
 - Climate Smart Communities Grant Program
 - Water Quality Improvement Project Program
 - Non-Agricultural Nonpoint Source Planning and Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Mapping Grant
 - NYSEFC Wastewater Infrastructure Engineering Planning Grant ProgramDiscussion re: each of the above ensued among members
3. National Night Out – TS, MW, JB, EH, and RR staffed the WSEC booth – (taxidermied fox needs repair)

IV. ISSUES OF THE PUBLIC:

1. ECEMC meeting (October) – MW will discuss Buffalo Creek flooding issues in the Lexington Green subdivision
2. Meyer Road Wetland – EH will ask Highways staff to remove debris, cut weeds adjacent to signage at site

3. Oxbow wetland – “Warning” signage adjacent to creek at oxbow (and upstream) is obscured by vegetation - EH will ask Mark Gaston (Erie Co. Soil & Water Conservation District) to cut back vegetation to allow for visibility by creek users

Adjourned – 8:00 p.m.

W. Sen. Env. Comm. Mtg. Mins. – Aug. 2021