

## W. SENECA ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, April 26, 2011

Burchfield Nature and Arts Center (BNAC)

2001 Union Road, West Seneca

### I. CALL TO ORDER – 7:03 P.M.

### II. ATTENDANCE

Present: Evelyn Hicks (EH), Rick Rutkowski (RR), Dave Monopolopolus (DM), Sheila Meegan (SM), Gary Oosterhoudt (GO), Jack Oshei (JO)

Guest: Patricia Hamilton (65 Harlem Rd. - W. Seneca)

Excused: Paula Olma (PO), Joyce Mallette (JM), George Rockey (GR)

### III. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

1. March 2011 meeting minutes were reviewed, accepted by the commission members
2. Financial/Treasurer's report
  - Current balance - \$2800.00
  - Expenditures since last month - \$141.00 for 2 bluebird houses and for 50 trees purchased from ECSWCD, and for lunch (pizzas, soda) for volunteers – trees to be planted at the Arbor Day Event (April 30) at the BNAC – Grant funds for event (\$1,000.00) not yet received from NYSDEC
  - Future expenditures - EH would like to purchase a projector and screen. Approved by members - SM provided Town contact information to EH to arrange to purchase those items.
3. Membership – EH suggests that PO be asked to resign because she lives out of NY State for approximately ½ year, and therefore is unable to attend meetings/participate in activities during that time - position to be filled by another candidate. – P. Hamilton expressed her desire to become a member
4. Office – stuffed animals to be stored in the BNAC and /or at the (Town owned) Metz House at 12 School St. DM and RR will accomplish this – SM to obtain computer monitor for use at the WSEC office.
5. Correspondence – Announcement forwarded to EH by Supervisor re: Buffalo River Watershed Workshop – April 30 – conducted by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – SM will be able to attend a portion of the program

### IV. DISCUSSION - 2011 WSEC PROJECTS

1. Oxbow Property (2805 Clinton St) – draining of wetland was considered “maintenance” by DEC – Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper (BNR) staff advised WSEC that a fuel storage tank was observed in oxbow channel - WSEC members agreed that it should be removed – BNR staff, ECC students to perform work (knotweed removal, tree planting) at site on May 7
2. Serafini Property (2735 Clinton St) – survey of property performed - EH to continue pursuing purchase of the southern portion of this property for the Town – Edbauer Construction is expected to purchase the northern portion of the property

3. Hi View Terrace – on hold/status quo since the last meeting

V. DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

1. Edbauer Construction – (SBL 124.11-2-2) – construction activity has been initiated – culvert has been installed to provide driveway access over the intermittent stream at site
2. Houghton College (810 Union Rd.) – status quo since last meeting

VI. CONTINUING PROJECTS FOR 2011

1. 1030 Orchard Park Rd – status quo since last meeting
2. 1200 East & West Rd. – EH advised that NYSDEC expects that the wetlands, floodplain, forested area will be delineated, and will be subsequently transferred to that agency by the NYS Dormitory Authority
3. Members Projects for 2011
  - Protection of Ash Trees in W. Seneca – (PO) -status quo, as PO is wintering in Florida until Spring of 2011
  - WS educational display – (JM) - JM excused, item tabled
  - Acquisition of the Serafini (2735 Clinton St) parcel (EH) – see above
  - Residential Outreach – (SM) – SM plans to conduct a seminar pertaining to Sewer District #13 issues at the WS Senior Center this year and would like EH to participate.
  - Creek access (DM) – no information to report
  - Stormwater activities (RR)
    - Storm drain stenciling – RR will send a letter to the Town requesting permission for this activity.
    - Illegal connections (i.e. roof downspouts, sump pump discharges) to sanitary sewers – RR discussed with Mark Hummel (Sewer Dept.) – Dept. investigated a portion of the residential area last year, and those residents could be asked to disconnect illegal discharges into the sanitary sewer system – RR will look for acceptable literature for this purpose
  - Canoe Launch – 570 Mineral Springs Rd. (GO) – no activity to report
  - Oxbow - GR excused, item tabled
  - Rain barrels (JO) – 3 rain barrels painted, installed at northwest corner of BNAC building
  - April 16, 2011 creek cleanups:
    - Buffalo Creek/BNAC – 50 volunteers participated, 10 bags trash, large quantity of downed tree limbs removed –
    - Cazenovia Creek at Ridge & Orchard Park Rds. – 25 volunteers participated, 21 bags trash removed

VII. OTHER

1. Great Lakes Experience – (June 18, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.) – EH requests WSEC volunteers to assist with this event
2. Harlem Rd. Tree Planting project - PH - no activity to report

Meeting adjourned – 8:13 P.M.