

W. SENECA ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at 7:00 PM

Christian Metz Home – 12 School St., West Seneca

I. CALL TO ORDER – 7:05 p.m.

II. ATTENDANCE

Evelyn Hicks (EH) Chair, Rick Rutkowski (RR) Vice-Chair, Lauren Masset (LM), Beth Feeney (BF), Camie Jarrell, Mike Wass (MW), Emily Baker (EB)
Absent/Excused: Amy Kobler (AK), Karl Spencer (KS), Matthew Roche (MR)
Town Board Member: Gene Hart

III. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

1. Meeting Minutes – Jan. 2018 – accepted and approved by members
2. 2018 WSEC Budget – \$1029.85
3. Town Environmental funds:
 - National Fish and Wildlife Federation - \$2,710.96
 - US Fish & Wildlife Service - \$29,000.00
 - National Grid Mitigation Fund - \$61,000.00Budget accepted & approved by members
4. Correspondence – none
5. 2015, 2016, 2017 Annual Reports - AK advised that she has begun to compile information for Annual Reports for years 2015, 2016, and 2017, and has updated the Town website with current membership, terms of members, and planned meeting dates
6. Office – EH advised that remodeling has been completed, and she will arrange for transport of equipment and supplies (by Town employees) from the BNAC to the Christian Metz Home

IV. WSEC PROJECTS - UPDATES/DISCUSSION

1. Oxbow (2805 Clinton St.) – status quo – EH suggests that an evaluation (i.e. newly planted trees, invasive species identification, etc.) needs to be done by members this Spring in order to determine scope of work that needs to be done this year.
2. Standing Subcommittee reports:
 - Tree Issues Subcommittee – KS attended 2/6 Planning Board meeting – a developer requested a list of indigenous trees in W. Seneca - KS suggests that a list be developed, added to Town website - EH advises that the Town (Highway Dept.) has this list on the website, suggests that the list be expanded to include shrubs
 - Creek Awareness Subcommittee – KS attempted to contact Dave Kearns (Principal - W. Seneca West Middle School), - no response received – discussion ensues to identify other venues (Schools' Science curriculum?) – LM suggests that the Veteran's Park Summer Day Camp (hosted by Town Recreation Dept. - June 25 – Aug. 5) is another potential venue for the presentation.
 - By-Laws Subcommittee – status quo
 - Water Quality Issues Subcommittee –
 - Buffalo Creek Canoe/Kayak Launch – 880 Harlem Rd. – status quo
 - Residential Rain Barrels – status quo
 - Municipal Rain Barrels –status quo
 - Storm Drain Marking –unmarked Town streets (with curbs) – 118 remain

V. 2018 MEMBER PROJECTS

1. Student Recycling after Sporting Events – completed - discussion ensues – RR suggests that residents could be educated if Town facilities be identified where recycling of containers can be accomplished – EB, LM will research and will provide a list of locations – could be added to Town website
2. Public Outreach & Education re: Household Recycling – AK to facilitate electronic format of Modern Disposal Corp. information sheet on both the W.S. Highways and WSEC links on W. Seneca’s website – no further action needed
3. Community Outreach – WSEC informational table will be set up at the 7/24 outdoor concert at the BNAC (working meeting for WSEC members) – EH reports that AK believes that a poster contest re: importance of pollinators will be done this year at the BNAC – suggests that WSEC become involved - other:
 - GH suggests a WSEC display at the opening of the new Library:
 - EH suggests a display of deer resistant plants at the Farmer’s Market events in W. Seneca
 - Rain Barrel “raffle”

VI. OTHER PROJECTS

1. Feb. 7 meeting– presentation (Building Climate Resiliency by Saving Land in the Buffalo Creek Watershed) by WNY Land Conservancy staff - EH will formulate meeting minutes, will e-mail to members (for discussion at March 27 meeting)
2. 965 Center Rd. – (proposed 28 unit attached residential apartments) – CJ reviewed site plan for environmental issues – no problems evident
3. Earth Day cleanup event (April 21) – LM volunteers to be a “Site Captain” at the BNAC location - (CJ will be “Site Captain” at Cazenovia creek location)

VII. ISSUES OF THE PUBLIC

1. Deer Control – status quo
2. Leydecker Rd. Fishing Access site – EH reports vandalism of signage (wooden signposts cut) - sign recovered by Highway Dept. – CJ suggests using metal posts if sign is to be reinstalled

Adjourned – 8:12 p.m.