

WEST SENECA ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, September 25, 2018 at 7:00 PM
Christian Metz Home – 12 School St., West Seneca

I. CALL TO ORDER – 7:04 p.m.

II. ATTENDANCE

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

Excused/Absent: Matthew Roche (MR), Beth Feeney (BF), Camie Jarrell (CJ),
Karl Spencer (KS), Amy Kobler (AK),

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

Guests: Mr. Chavanne, Erin Chavanne, Michael Fox, Leah Nardolillo

III. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

1. Meeting Minutes – March 2018 – tabled – August 2018 – accepted & approved
by members

2. Financial Report - MW reports that budget amounts are unchanged:

- 2018 WSEC Budget – \$1029.85
- 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

RR submitted request for reimbursement for supplies (\$80.14) to Town – GH advises
that request was approved by Town Board on Sept. 24

Financial report accepted and approved by members

3. Correspondence – EH advised that she received the following:

- thank you letter from Town for participation in National Night Out;
- letter from NYSDEC (Lisa Czechowitz) re: Oxbow wetlands permit
renewal;
- letter from NYSDEC (Susan Booth Binczik) re: deer management options
- letter from NYSDEC re: tree safety

4. 2015, 2016, 2017 Annual Reports – status quo

5. Office – EH advises that Town Buildings & Grounds staff will move our office to
the 1st floor of the Metz Home (as workload allows) - 2nd floor used for storage

IV. WSEC PROJECTS - UPDATES/DISCUSSION

1. Oxbow (2805 Clinton St.) – Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper will conduct a site visit
with River Academy (ECC students) on October 4 - RR reported that the Giant
Hogweed plant (observed on 7/16) appeared to be “dead”

2. Standing Subcommittee reports:

- Tree Issues Subcommittee – status quo
- Creek Awareness Subcommittee – status quo
- By-Laws Subcommittee – BYLAWS FOR THE WEST SENECA
COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT
document to be added to the W. Seneca website (subcommittee to be
inactivated)
- 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 – program completed for 2018 – after discussion,
members approve the purchase of 200 storm drain medallions with funds in
2017 budget

V. 2018 MEMBER PROJECTS

1. Community Outreach – all events completed for 2018 – future issues:
 - EH would like to encourage residents to volunteer/participate with the WSEC – after discussion, members agree - EB will create a document pertaining to same for the W. Seneca website – RR adds that outreach to the community might be accomplished for the same purpose via the local papers (i.e. W. Seneca Bee, Metro Community News)
 - EH would like to initiate a subcommittee (which she will lead) pertaining to deer management issues – after discussion, members decide that it should be called the “Education Subcommittee”

VI. ISSUES OF THE PUBLIC - None

Adjourned – 8:14 p.m.