



Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes – February 28, 2022

Present: Rich Rodack, Miriam Reichenbach, Ed Komczyk, Marilyn Quinn, Russell Price, Ahmad Tamous
Alternate: Carl Ford, Ken Miller

WD Twp Representative: None

Student Representative: Jake Cobb

Public – Mr. Mo Perera

Guests: None

Call to Order: Miriam Reichenbach called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Secretary's Report – Meeting Minutes –Rich made a motion to review the draft meeting minutes and it was seconded by Miriam. The draft minutes were reviewed and there were no changes suggested. Miriam made a motion to approve the minutes as written and it was seconded by Marilyn. The motion passed with no objections.

Secretary's Report - Correspondence received – Rich discussed the correspondence the WDEC received, as follows:

- 1847 Crown Point Road Warehouse NJPDES permit application for the treatment and discharge of contaminated groundwater, dated January 10, 2022. The letter was circulated to members for review and there were no comments. An excerpt of the letter was also emailed to WDEC members on January 25, 2022 for their information.

Secretarial follow-up items – Rich, Ed, Carl, Ken signed their respective oath of office forms as requested by Adam during WDEC's January virtual meeting. **Action Item – Miriam asked Rich to drop the signed forms off with Jill Magill for Adam's signature.**

Rich and Miriam had not heard back from Adam regarding the status of the township's response to issues raised in a letter from two residents regarding development of land near their residence. **Action Item – Miriam is to follow-up with Adam to determine the status of the township's response.** After further discussion by the group it was decided that if the township decides not to reply to the residents, then the WDEC should respond to them. Ed made a motion that the WDEC should provide a written response and Rich seconded it. After additional discussion by the group about the need for a timely response and the need for all WDEC members to review it at our March 21st meeting, Ed's motion was amended to authorize Rich and Miriam to send a response to the residents before the March meeting, that is, assuming the township chooses not to respond. Ed was okay with the change to his original motion and Rich made a motion to accept it and it was seconded by Russell. The amended motion passed with no objections. Miriam said that copies of WDEC's response letter would be provided to WDEC members at the March meeting.

Status of Solvay Public Participation Plan – Rich brought up the question of where Solvay stood with its Public Participation Plan. At the June 2021 meeting Solvay representatives said they were working with NJDEP on the plan and said it may be ready by the end of summer 2021. **Action Item – Ed or Miriam are to call Chuck Jones of Solvay for an update on the status of the plan and report back to WDEC.**

Status of November 2021 Meeting Minute Attachments – Marilyn previously asked why the November 2021 meeting posted on the township website did not include the two attachments referenced in the minutes. After Rich's discussion with Jill Magill, WD township deputy clerk, it was determined that the attachments were considered to be a work product of the meeting and should not be attached to the minutes, consistent with the practices of other township committees and boards. If someone wants to see the attachments, they can contact the township.

Tall Pines State Preserve Correspondence – Ed asked Rich if he had seen any correspondence from Tall Pines. Rich said he did not. Ed said he would follow-up with them regarding WDEC's annual membership fees.

Old Business

Township Liaison Report: No representative was present at the meeting.

Student Representative Report: - Jake reported that the NJ mask mandate would expire on March 7. He also said he was looking into possible volunteers for the library clean-up for the morning of April 23rd and was also looking into a potential candidate to be a WDEC student representative.

Chairperson's Report: Miriam reported on the following items:

Update on signs on Nature Trail – Ed reported that he spoke with Karl Andersen and will work with Bill Gigliotti and Karl once the weather permits.

Carl's concerns about Nature Trail signs – Carl raised concerns about the potential for vandalism and theft of Nature Trail signs. Ed said he would discuss the concerns with Bill Gigliotti.

New Business:

Seedling distribution for Earth Day - Miriam reported that the seedlings have been ordered.

Earth Day Activities – Ken reported that the LED light bulbs have been purchased. He also said he checked on Rowan professor's availability for September's WD fun day and unfortunately they would not be available. Action Item - Given their unavailability, Miriam said she would check with the Insectarium to determine their availability.

Library Clean-up on Earth Day – Jake said he would see if anyone is interested in volunteering.

ANJEC Annual Fees – Rich said he submitted the application to Barb Lamplugh for payment.

Communication with Residents: Nothing new to report.

LNG Project Update – Marilyn said that Delaware River Partners, LLC made a presentation to the West Deptford committee at its February 16th meeting. Marilyn distributed some information from the Delaware Riverkeepers.

Grant Applications: Nothing new to report.

Planning Board - Eric was not at the meeting but notified Rich that the proposed Leonard Lane warehouse project was approved and the developer accepted WDEC's comments on the proposed project. Ahmad reported that there would be no February Planning Board meeting.

Financial Report: No update provided, Eric was not present at the meeting.

Public Comment: None

For the Good of the Order:

Ed talked about Karl Andersen's extensive survey of flora and fauna in the Nature Trail area and that it was available via the I-Nature application. Carl asked whether the township can do anything about the invasive plants that are near the Nature Trail.

Adjourn: Miriam asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ed made the motion and it was seconded by Russell. Miriam adjourned the meeting at 8:30 P.M. with no objections.

Dates to Remember

March 21st EC meeting, 7:00 P.M, in-person, RiverWinds

 3/22/22

Signed and submitted by Richard Rodack, WDEC Secretary