



## **Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes – March 21, 2022**

Present: Rich Rodack, Miriam Reichenbach, Ed Komczyk, Marilyn Quinn, Ahmad Tamous (arrived at 7:20 P.M.  
Alternate: Carl Ford

WD Twp Representative: None

Student Representative: Jake Cobb

Public – Mr. Mo Perera, Ms, Sharon Ceravolo

Guests: None

Call to Order: Miriam Reichenbach called the meeting to order at 7:06 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. Ed made a motion to approve the minutes as written and it was seconded by Miriam. The motion passed with no objections.

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

- NJDEP letter dated 3/7/22 regarding West Deptford Energy, LLC's draft operating permit renewal
- Land Dimensions letter dated 1/26/22 regarding a LOI request to NJDEP for potential warehouse expansion at 800 Grove Road.
- West Deptford Township's email response dated 2/1/22 to residents' concerns raised regarding development activities near their property.

The correspondence was circulated for everyone's review and discussed. The correspondence was also emailed to WDEC members for their review prior to the meeting.

### **Old Business**

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

**Student Representative Report:** - Jake reported that he was looking into possible volunteers for the library clean-up for the morning of April 23<sup>rd</sup> 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.

Invitation to Mr. Charron to speak to WDEC – Miriam asked for WDEC input on whether we should invite Mr. Charron of Delaware River Partners, LLC to speak to the WDEC. Mr. Charron had previously spoken to the West Deptford township committee at its February 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. After discussion by the group it was decided that more information was needed to understand the context of the request before making a final decision. Action Item – Miriam to speak to township to gather more details regarding this matter.

Insectarium and butterfly pavilion – Miriam asked WDEC members to watch the documentary regarding the Insectarium and said she would discuss the matter at the April meeting.

Solvay public participation program update – Ed reported that he spoke with Solvay representative Chuck Jones and Mr. Jones said the plan was in for review by the NJDEP. Rich also reported that he left a phone message for NJDEP case manager regarding the status of their review and he did not receive a call back yet.

### **New Business:**

Seedling distribution for Earth Day - Miriam reported that the seedlings have been ordered. Latiya is making signs for the buckets and flyers for advertising the event.

Earth Day Activities – LED light bulbs have been purchased. Need to check on the availability of brown paper bags and also if the bulbs are in packaging or not. Action Item – Carl to check with Ken on bulb packaging. We need to nail down details regarding Earth Day activities at WDEC's April 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. Rich reported on two improvement items from last year, the need for small pencils for people to use to write down the tree names on bags and secondly, the need to bring water spray bottles to keep tree roots from drying out.

ANJEC Annual Fees – Rich said he spoke with Barb Lamplugh and she reported that the check was mailed to ANJEC. Rich also left a phone message with ANJEC to determine if they received and processed the check and the membership application.

Communication with Residents: Nothing new to report. Marilyn advised the group she started a communication newsletter within her local neighborhood.

Project Updates – Marilyn handed out a flyer providing information opposing the proposed construction of a compressor station in West Deptford. The compressor station is associated with Williams Energy Access Expansion Project. The flyer was prepared by Food and Water Watch.

Grant Applications: Nothing new to report.

Planning Board - Eric was not at the meeting but notified Rich that there were no projects to be heard at the upcoming March 22<sup>nd</sup> Planning Board meeting. In addition, Miriam talked about the township's response to the residents' concerns regarding development near their property.

Financial Report: Eric provided the financial report via email. Rich reported on Eric's behalf and said that the general fund balance from last year was consolidated into this year's account balance. Rich also said the financial report showed expenditures of \$475 for ANJEC membership fees, \$420 for tree seedlings and \$440 for the LED light bulbs.

Public Comment: Ms. Ceravolo, a West Deptford resident, provided a letter to the committee suggesting certain trail additions to the existing nature trail. She is an avid birdwatcher and talked about West Deptford and the nature trail area as being ideal locations for bird watching. Miriam thanked her for her request and willingness to help with the project. Action Item – Miriam is to talk to Bill Gigliotti about project feasibility and report back to the commission on next steps.

### **For the Good of the Order:**

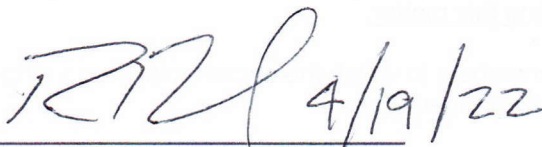
Ed and Marilyn talked about eagle sightings in West Deptford.

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

### **Dates to Remember**

April 18th  
April 23<sup>rd</sup>

EC meeting, 7:00 P.M, in-person, RiverWinds  
Earth Day Activities



Signed and submitted by Richard Rodack, WDEC Secretary