



## **Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes – October 17, 2022**

**Present:** Rich Rodack, Miriam Reichenbach, Ed Komczyk, Eric Agren, Marilyn Quinn, Ahmad Tamous, Russell Price. **Alternate:** Carl Ford, (non-voting alternate)

**WD Twp Representative:** Ashley Morrell

**Student Representative:** Colwyn Moser, Sienna Struzynski

**Public –** Mr. Mo Perera

**Guests:** None

**Call to Order:** Miriam Reichenbach called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M.

**Secretary's Report – Meeting Minutes** – Rich took attendance and discussed the correspondence that was received and sent out by the WDEC. The letter received was from WSP notifying the commission of a Treatment Works Application (TWA) that was being submitted to the NJDEP on behalf of BCIF Crown Point Road, LLC for a treatment system associated with the construction of a warehouse located at 1847 Crown Point Road. The treatment system will discharge treated water from construction related excavation under NJPDES permit number NJG0328855.

Secondly, the letter sent out by the WDEC was a thank you letter to Mr. Chuck Rose, Gloucester County Director of Parks and Recreation, thanking him for Dr. Dan Duran's participation in West Deptford Fun Day activities in the WDEC tent.

Both letters were circulated for review during the meeting and were also emailed to WDEC members prior to the meeting for their information.

Miriam made a motion to table the review of the draft September meeting until the November meeting. Rich seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed with no objections.

### **Old Business**

#### **Township Liaison Report:**

- Ashley reported that the pickle ball courts were opened over the weekend of 10/15-10/16 and that the township is looking into potentially using an online reservation system for use by West Deptford residents.

**Student Representative Report:** Colwyn volunteered to look into the potential use of milkweed seeds as a giveaway item for Earth Day 2023. Sienna added in that Mr. Pustie, the high school's STEM coordinator, said he is looking for opportunities for his students to volunteer for WDEC activities.

**Chairperson's Report:** Miriam and Ed reported on the following items:

**Update on Nature Trail signs and trail extensions** – Ed is working with Bill Gigliotti to advance the project and expects that once the leaves have fallen off the trees and shrubs, the trails will begin to be marked out and cleared, perhaps in the next month or so.

**Potential Milkweed Handouts for Earth Day 2023** - Miriam opened the meeting to suggestions regarding what items to distribute for Earth Day 2023 as an alternative to LED light bulbs. Several people suggested milkweed seeds. **Action Item** - Miriam asked Eric to check with the county for input on cost and availability and she also asked Russell and Colwyn to investigate and provide feedback at the November meeting.

**Potential Expansion of Wildflower Planting Areas** – Miriam asked the group for input on additional wildflower planting areas for the township's consideration. Ashley, Colwyn and Sienna suggested several areas near the high school and middle school. **Action Item** - Miriam asked them to see whether we can get the schools' gardening clubs to participate in the planting.

**Spookypalooza Participation** – Miriam said she got an email from Latiya asking if the WDEC would be interested in participating in the upcoming trunk or treat Spookpalooza event . After discussion among the group, there were no volunteers who wanted to participate in the event.

**Recycling Information** – Miriam contacted Gloucester county and asked for information about approved recycling materials. She received brochures from the county and distributed them to WDEC members for their information and use.

**New Business:**

Communication with Residents – nothing new to report.

LNG and other Project Updates – Rich had nothing new to report, Marilyn provided handouts with information regarding YouTube links to a Belgian study of Solvay. She also talked about PFOS- free products. She also mentioned the potential progression of the Gibbstown LNG terminal project several years in the future if an economic source of LNG is identified and lastly, Rutgers University's continuing efforts to collect blood samples from Paulsboro resident's for analysis of PFAS/PFOS compounds.

**Planning Board** - Eric reported that the Board approved the Purple Cloth Recovery Center project subject to the comments of the Township's professionals and that the WDEC comments on the project were incorporated into the Board's meeting record. Eric said that there was currently nothing on the agenda for the Planning Board's October 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Financial Report:** Eric provided the financial report via email and circulated the reports for review. He reported that the trust fund balance was \$18,793.48 and the general budget balance was \$3.078.

**For the Good of the Order:**

Ed provided a handout regarding "The Accordions are Coming" to RiverWinds on November 6<sup>th</sup>. Miriam talked about the email she sent out regarding educational lectures by the U.S. Geological Survey. Marilyn talked about the potential for using other types of greenery rather than grass.

**Public Comment:** No comments.

**Adjourn:** Miriam asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ed made the motion and it was seconded by Rich. Miriam adjourned the meeting at 8:05 P.M. with no objections.

**Dates to Remember**

November 21<sup>st</sup>  
December 19<sup>th</sup>

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



Signed and submitted by Richard Rodack, WDEC Secretary