



Environmental Commission Virtual Meeting Minutes – August 17, 2020

Present via Zoom Meeting: Ken Miller, Ed Komczyk, Marilyn Quinn, Rich Rodack, Miriam Reichenbach, Russell Price

Alternate: None

WD Twp Representative: Adam Reid

Student Representative: Jake Cobb

Public: Ms. Jeanne Jordan

Guests: None

Call to Order: Miriam Reichenbach called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Secretary's Report – Ed made a motion to accept the July meeting minutes as amended. Motion seconded by Marilyn. Motion carried by voice vote with no objections. (Note to minutes – during the discussion of minutes Rich dropped off from the virtual meeting because his internet connection dropped. Miriam took notes and recorded the changes and passed on to Rich via email after the meeting. Rich rejoined the virtual meeting shortly after the meeting minute discussion.)

Old Business:

Liaison: Adam spoke about the construction of the filtration system on West Deptford well #8 and that it would be online in the near future. With regard to an action item from last month's meeting regarding clarification of the apparent above standard 39.6 ppt PFNA Result, Adam said that the township would be sending out a letter during the week of August 17th providing additional details. Lastly, Adam said he did not have any additional information on the National Park "dirty water" issue that was raised at the July meeting, but would be contacting a National Park official to discuss.

Chairperson's Report:

Commission Membership – The EC is actively seeking additional membership to fill its last vacancy for an alternate member. Adam confirmed that Ms. Marsha Lindsey submitted her application to the Township for consideration

New Business:

Communication with Residents: Miriam reported status quo, Adam spoke about township letter going out to residents on the PFNA result as noted above.

LNG Project Update – Marilyn provided an update on the Delaware Riverkeepers Network and sent information to WDEC members via several emails, including a proposed model resolution for consideration by municipalities. Marilyn also said that Lehigh County, PA was considering enacting a resolution opposing the project. Marilyn asked Ms. Jeanne Jordan, a member of the public who has been following the project closely, to address the WDEC. Ms. Jordan expressed concerns regarding the potential for accidents with shipments of LNG by truck and/or rail from Wyalusing, PA to Gibbstown. These deliveries by truck and rail would be going through West Deptford and other nearby communities. Ms. Jordan also said that she independently sent the model resolution to the township for their consideration. She said the overall goal was to get more municipalities to enact the resolutions to build momentum against the project. Ms. Jordan also said that there was a DRBC meeting scheduled for September to review the project. As an action item from last meeting, Adam checked with the township to determine if an official position had been taken regarding the project. Adam said that he spoke with township officials and the township concluded that the project was outside the scope of its jurisdiction because the regulatory permits were being reviewed and granted by Federal or State entities.

Action Item – After further discussion among the WDEC, Miriam stated that the role of the WDEC in this matter is to keep the Township updated regarding project progression and any new information that comes to light. As such, Miriam asked Adam to communicate the concerns and varied opinions and discussion points from the meeting to the Township officials for their information and consideration as they see fit.

Ed and Miriam thanked Marilyn and Ms. Jordan for their diligence in investigating and keeping the WDEC informed regarding the project and asked them to keep WDEC updated as new information became available.

Grants: No new ones.

Planning Committee: Rich, in Eric's absence, said Eric communicated with him that there were no pending items for review. Miriam said she had received no documents. Miriam asked Rich to re-send her the letters from the previous meeting.

Financial Report: Ken received reports from the township showing a Trust Fund balance of \$10,904.65 and WDEC account balance of \$3,977.09. Ken also said he has the light bulbs that were supposed to be given out on Earth Day activities, as well as, the Nature Trail tree identification signs that were purchased and are currently awaiting installation.

Student Representative Report: Jake said it appears that WDHS will be going to a hybrid instruction approach for the fall semester, part in-person teaching and part online instruction. Jake also talked about the WDHS STEM program and the potential for having a guest speaker in from Delaware Riverkeeper Network.

Public Comment: Ms. Jeanne Jordan thanked the WDEC for listening to her comments and concerns regarding the LNG project and said that she would try to present the information to the WD township officials at their next meeting.

For the Good of the Order: Ed talked about lack of water in Woodbury's lake system. He spoke with Woodbury officials and they said a dam was leaking causing water loss downstream and also that beavers were building dams upstream resulting in a downstream water deficit. Woodbury is currently looking at how to address the problem and may be hiring a consultant to assist them.

Adjourn:

At 8:16 Rich moved, and Russell seconded, a motion to adjourn. Motion carried with voice vote with no objections.

Dates to Remember

September 21, 2020

EC virtual meeting, 7:00 p.m.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'RR', is written over a horizontal line. To the right of the signature, the date '10/19/20' is handwritten.

Signed and submitted by Richard Rodack, WDEC Secretary