

**West Amwell Township
Environmental Commission
September 10, 2009**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Chairperson Cathy Urbanski.

In attendance: Carol Cavanaugh, Joel Coyne, Charity Hall, John Hoff, Cathy Urbanski.

Absent: Dan Longhi, Rob Piel, Robyn Myhre, Ron Shapella, Joan Van der Veen.

Approval of Minutes

On a voice vote of all ayes, the minutes from 8-13-09 were approved.

Opportunity for Public Comment: no members of the public were present.

- 1. Newsletter** - Decision by the Commission to wait on the newsletter since we do not know what our budget appropriation is.
- 2. Green Team and Sustainable Jersey** – Discussion of the Land Use Pledge and that it is not appropriate for our township. We discussed the need to contact “ Sustainable Jersey” and ask them to consider rural communities, since the sustainable aspect is primarily geared to developed communities.
- 3. Greenhouse Gas Reduction Grant** – Application has been submitted.
- 4. Hike to the Goat Hill property**, recently preserved and with historic implications – members and any friends invited to attend.
- 5. WAT Elementary School** – Discussion as to how to involve them. Possible: green art. Cathy to seek TC approval for displaying artwork at the municipal bldg. Also, we need to educate the students as to recycling and re- use: Charity to contact Shop Rite to see if they will donate re-useable bags to the students.
- 6. Trails System, Water Company Property** – Cathy showed maps of the trail system proposed by D&R Greenway in conjunction with the properties preserved by Green Acres. She had met with their reps and explained the problem with access. The idea was to have a trail system from the Howell Farm through the United Water Co. property to Lambertville.
- 7. Chester Urbanski, Chair of the Agricultural Advisory Committee** attended the meeting with concerns raised by the AAC committee as to the flooding of Alexauken Creek since the Orleans Development was completed. Considerable discussion followed. The EC decided that in lieu of the Alexauken study (319 grant), that the possibility of monitoring the “before” and “after” of Orleans could be done by SHRS. Charity will contact her biology teacher to set up the criteria.

Opportunity for Public Comment: no members of the public were present.

A motion to adjourn was made and on a voice vote of all ayes, the motion passed and the meeting ended at 8:45 pm.