



Verona Environmental Commission

600 Bloomfield Avenue
Verona, New Jersey 07044

June 15, 2010

Verona Community Center, Conference Room, 880 Bloomfield Ave

Members: Cinzia Cortese, Gerard Shimonaski, Gloria Machnowski, James Loudon, Tom Freeman, Teena Schwartz, Virginia Citrano and Anthony Saltalamacchia

Guest: Carl Cascone and Marjorie Williams

AGENDA ITEMS

- I. Review and approval of May 18, 2010 minutes

Minutes of May 18, 2010 were approved without corrections.

- II. Discussion on what collection and storage containers are needed at VHS and HBW for Commingle.

Discussion followed regarding the storage containers needed for commingle at VHS and HBW. According to Carl Cascone VHS needed 2 containers in the cafeteria, 10 to hold commingle in storage and 5 narrow container for the school halls. Anthony Saltalamacchia stated that 10 containers are needed at HBW and that he would like to have 4 narrow containers in the cafeteria and 1 narrow container in the front hall. Gerard Shimonaski stated that he direct knowledge of how paper is not always recycled at VHS but discarded in the trash when the Environmental Club members fails to pick up the paper. Carl Cascone agreed that the recycling effort at times is clogged. Gerard Shimonaski said that we should remind everybody that recycling is a mandated program. Virginia Citrano asked whether the VHS and HBW need a bottle crusher. According to Carl Cascone VHS does not need one. Gloria Machnowski asked why bottles could not be picked up from the back of the elementary schools buildings. The answer is that it may be dangerous for the children: bottles need to be put at the curb.

- III. Discussion on the Peckman River Clean-up and can we approve it for the students.

The Peckman River clean up was a success. Carl Cascone said that 71 VHS students took part in it and that Linda Barone took pictures. A flash card with pictures was given to Gloria Machnowski to place on our web site. Carl confirmed that he would like to involve VHS in this activity every year.

IV. Discussion of Rain Garden at HBW

As for the Rain Garden according to Marjorie Williams the program is approved But the Township is working out the details such as to how the maintenance money will be held for the VEC. The Verona Service League has not yet decided whether to donate the money to this project

V. Discussion on Treasured Trees this summer, Walk to School program in October and Fair in Square in December.

The members seem to agree on keeping the Treasured Tree Program alive. Suggestions were made about candidates and members were encouraged to provide information on trees in their locations. Marjorie Williams suggested that the VEC fix the sign on the Treasured Tree on Beechwood and Chestnut .

VI. Discussion on ownership of our website and the addition and deletion of materials to it.

It was agreed that we needed tom find a reputable company to manage our web site.

VII. Discussion on using Project Management for assignments of projects by the membership

This leads to the need to rewrite our bylaws. A copy of our bylaws and suggested changes were given to each member. The members all agreed to the changes. Gerard Shimonaski would write the up the new bylaws as agreed on and send them to the membership to vote on. Anne Stires, President of the Hilltop Park Conservancy sent Gerard Shimonaski a e-mail about schools around the state collecting acorns from specific oak trees. Gloria asked about grants but no one replied to that question.