



## Verona Environmental Commission

600 Bloomfield Avenue  
Verona, New Jersey 07044

**September 14, 2010**

**Verona Community Center, Conference Room, 880 Bloomfield Ave**

**Members present at the meeting:** Gloria Machnowski, James Loudon, Virginia Citrano, Anthony Saltalamacchia, Tara Bratek and Marjorie Williams.

### **AGENDA ITEMS**

1. June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010 minutes were approved and new VEC members Tara Bratek and Marjorie Williams were officially welcomed.
2. Status of collection and storage containers needed at VHS and HBW for Commingle: Anthony Saltalamacchia shared the submitted list. Virginia suggested encouraging reduction as well as recycling and placing some kind of counter or graphics to show progress at schools.
3. Recap on the meeting with Paul McDevitt (The schools' new facilities director), Chuck Sampson and Jerry Ragonese on:

A-Collection of paper and cardboard at the schools: Anthony commented about the very positive meeting. Gloria suggested to research about field trips to paper factories that actually use recycled paper (such as Marcal).

B- Green Cleaning products at schools. Executive Order 76 was put into effect August-2010. Virginia and Gloria shared news about new school district policy and Tracy's report. Only those products purchased and approved by the Verona Public Schools Facilities Department will be permitted. Approved cleaning supplies must follow specific guidelines for school use and will only be handled by authorized personnel. The VPSFD will run an inventory of the already purchased cleaning products. Next meeting is October 15<sup>th</sup>.

4. Gloria commented on the VEC "Idle Free Verona" poster contest scheduled for Oct. 6-Walk to School Day: The event will be advertised on the newspaper, in school bulletins and by e-mails to parents. James Loudon brought to the meeting oversized posters that he printed for publicity and suggested to change the theme next year if idling declines significantly. Tara and Gloria will collect & display the students' posters at all four elementary schools on Oct. 7. Winners will receive \$ 50 and an award certificate signed by Verona's mayor. The Award Ceremony is scheduled for November 1st at 7 pm in Verona Town Hall.

5. The VEC will participate on "Steps to go green fair", Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>. Gloria, Tara, Tony and Virginia will attend and run the presentation "Idle Free Verona".
6. Discussion of Rain Garden at HBW: Marjorie explained that no founding was provided yet. Carl will be contacted to ask him about status of Green House at VHS.
7. Treasured Tree Program: Marjorie shared the list and details of selected trees. Gloria will photograph the tree located at 10 S. Prospect Street and wait for Marjorie to confirm owners' availability to appear in the picture of the other two specimens.
8. Residents' Night on November: the VEC will participate and add a presentation about green cleaning products, as suggested by James Loudon. The VEC will invite Project Porch Light again and gather details about the event as soon as possible.
9. Fair in Square in December: the VEC will participate, and research on quick crafts that can be done by children with recycled or nature's items at low temperatures.
10. Gloria mentioned the following VEC Web site updates: Arbor Day Free Trees, Medicine Collection Day, Verona Park Cleanup and Walk to School Day-Idle Free Verona Poster Contest.