



Verona Environmental Commission

600 Bloomfield Avenue
Verona, New Jersey 07044

VEC Public Meeting: October 8 at 7:30 pm – VCC Annex building. Members present: Gloria Machnowski, James Loudon, Larry Lonergan, Anthony Saltalamacchia, Virginia Citrano, Jessica Pearson, Julia Capuano. Guest: VHS Student Andres Sandoval.

MINUTES

I. Members approved the September Minutes after fixing a typo (the title was Agenda instead of Minutes).

II. Virginia Citrano and Antony Saltalamacchia were reappointed to the Verona Environmental Commission at the October 6 Council Meeting. Their term will expire on 2017.

III. Walk to School Day: all posters submitted to the VEC contest were hung at the 4 elementary schools. Tony will set up the HBW display and Gloria will set up the VHS display tomorrow. We took pictures of all the posters and we'll make a video, a display with the winning posters and certificates for the award ceremony, scheduled for November 3rd.

IV. The commission will research the Waters of the US resolution, rainbarrels and composting programs. Also, Gloria and Chris attended the Sustainable Jersey's Essex Hub meeting at the Verona Boathouse on October 2. Verona could apply for a solar panel grant.

V. Peckman Woods Restoration Project: Jessica's report, remaining funds: \$325.94 to complete the project by May 2015. The VEC has new information about the trail on the Web site: <http://www.veronaec.org/peckman-trail> - The commission will print and laminate a new poster for the showcase, include a QR code on the trail and create a Geocache. Virginia recommended to contact the boy-scouts to help built a wooden foot bridge to cross the stream.

VI. VHS Field Update: the final plans are not ready yet. There is a school budget freeze, therefore trees removed in the front will not be replanted this Fall. Members suggested to contact the SCA and recommended to use donations to plant the trees, like HBW does.

VII. Larry explained that it's strange that Verona doesn't have a Steep Slope ordinance. Many of our neighbors have it. He will present it to the Planning Board. The VEC also recommends to adopt the NJDEP Model of the Anti Idling Resolution for Municipalities. Sapienza needs more information. A resolution is required to earn Sustainable Jersey points and to "bring attention to the idling issue and put it on the priority list for enforcement by local authorities". SJ Comments include: "You have a great anti-idling outreach and engagement program!".