



Verona Environmental Commission

600 Bloomfield Avenue
Verona, New Jersey 07044
www.veronaec.org

Minutes of the Verona Environmental Commission Regular Meeting on March 15th, 7:00 P.M., Conference Room, Verona Community Center, 880 Bloomfield Avenue, Verona N.J.

Attendees: Gloria Machnowski (Chairwoman), Anthony Saltalamacchia (Vice Chairman), Members Jessica Pearson, Martin Golan, Sean DiBartolo, Walter Steinmann (Alternate I), Frank Ceccacci (Alternate II) and Mayor Kevin Ryan. Guest: Carolyn Rubinfeld (NJWAP Watershed Ambassador).

1. Chairperson calls the meeting to order and reads the notice of Open Public Meetings Act. There is a quorum to go ahead and hold an official meeting.

2. Minutes from the February 15, 2017 meeting were approved by members. Chairperson welcomes to the VEC new member Frank Ceccacci (Alternate II).

3. Water Quality in New Jersey / Report. Mr. Kerry Pflugh, Director of the Office of Local Government Assistance from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection sent a news release regarding the recent U.S. Geological Survey study showing water quality improvement in New Jersey. There is also an article in www.northjersey.com called "Water quality a mixed bag for North Jersey, report says" <http://www.northjersey.com/story/news/environment/2017/02/27/water-quality-mixed-bag-north-jersey-report-says/98478514/>

ANJEC commented "Mixed report on water quality in Bergen & Passaic counties. Nitrogen & Phosphorus decreasing but nitrates contaminant coming from fertilizers & human excrement is increasing. Spring around corner - good to share about NJ's fertilizer laws."

Walter prepared a report based on the study and gave the following presentation:

Water Quality Improvement - Survey 1971-2011 - Summary of information compiled from US Geological Survey and New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

Pollution Components Surveyed

- Nitrogen: Pollution from automobiles and burning of fossil fuels (smog) NO₂
- Phosphorus : Compounds use in cleaning and component in agricultural fertilizer. PO₄
- Nitrates : Compounds found in agricultural fertilizer and animal ordure. NO₃, NH₄

Transportation mode of pollution components

- Nitrogen: Gases state which is soluble in rainwater producing acid rain that will run off into water bodies.
- Phosphorus : Compound that have high affinity to soil due to negative charge. Soluble in water; discharge into water waste stream from laundry operation; water run off from suburban lawns and agriculture operations

- Nitrates : Compound that are soluble in water. Discharge into waterways from runoff from suburban lawns and agricultural operation; soluble animal ordure from household pets, wildlife and farm animals.

Effect on water quality from pollution components

- Nitrogen: Important nutrient component for production of amino acids (proteins) for growth of living systems (four nitrogen atoms are found in each chlorophyll molecule). Excessive amount cause algae blooms which deprive oxygen from aqueous environment.
- Phosphorus : Important nutrient component in living systems for the storage and release of energy for growth- adenosine phosphates (ATD,ADP). Excessive amount cause algae blooms which deprive oxygen from aqueous environment.
- Nitrates : Important nutrient component for the production of amino acids (proteins) living systems (four nitrogen atoms are found in each chlorophyll molecule). Excessive amount cause algae blooms which deprive oxygen from aqueous environment.

Overall summary of water quality report

- Combined study over 1980-2011 period.
- 28 locations around New Jersey were tested
- Overall trend was a decrease in nutrient pollution for New Jersey waterways
- Nitrogen: 28 locations- downward 11; no trend 15; upward 2.
- Phosphorus: 28 locations- downward 14; no trend 13; upward 1.
- Nitrates: 28 locations- downward 7; no trend 12; upward 9.
- Study conducted 1971-1980 at 4 of the 28 locations showed an upward trend for all nutrient pollutants.

Survey for the closest locations to Verona waterway discharge

Passaic River at Little Falls- drainage area: 762 square miles

- Nitrogen: downward
- Phosphorus: downward
- Nitrates: upward

Passaic River at 2 Bridges (intersection of Pompton and Passaic Rivers) drainage area: 361 square miles

- Nitrogen: downward
- Phosphorus: no trend
- Nitrates: upward

Possible increase source contamination for upward trend of nitrates in Passaic locations

Run off from fertilizer used on suburban lawn:

- Run off from animal ordure
- Household pet ordure: Wildlife ordure. Deer defecate 13 time in 24 hour period average 93 pellets per episode; average total weight of 93pellets- 500 grams. Nitrates contained in 2.62grams/100grs of ordure in summer- 1.70grams/100g in winter. 170grams of nitrates per day/deer. Diaminopimelic acid: found in bacteria in deer ordure. .418grams/100g in winter; .290grams/100g in summer.

Conclusion of Survey

- Overall nutrient pollution is decreasing.

- Single source such as auto and industry has diminished due to stricter laws, improvement of sewerage systems and decline in industrial industry.
- Non-single source has increase due to suburban urbanization with use of fertilizer and increase in wildlife and domestic populations.

Remedies to abate increase of nutrient pollution

- Less use of fertilizer on lawns.
- Removal and disposal of animal ordure from property (both wildlife and domestic).

Frank noted that the report data is a few years old and asked about the actual trend. Walter noted that water quality is improving due to more regulation and less manufacturing, less pollution. But he added that the algae bloom in Verona Lake is probably due to the fertilizer used on the golf course upstream from the park in Also, the water is very shallow in Verona Lake, especially at the south end.

Walter mentioned that herbicides shouldn't be used to kill algae bloom in Verona Lake. Soil erosion and fertilizer runoff are the two major causes of water weeds. To control the aquatic plants he recommended to prevent fertilizer runoff, and dredge the lake. Jess and other VEC members thanked Walter for his very comprehensive presentation.

Sarah sent in the following memo:

Our State and local water bodies have benefited from increased monitoring and legislation to protect clean water in a very densely populated area. Our local monitoring stations, number 01382000 Two Bridges, and 01389500 Little Falls, both seem to follow the state trends.

It is significant that non-point sources continue to be difficult to enforce and identify. Also, individual homeowners in our area may continue to use fertilizers and other chemicals that end up in our waterways, despite increased efforts at education. Individuals also may not be picking up after pets. Geese droppings are also numerous at all our parks. I was curious about all the work around the reservoir near the Turtle Back Zoo. A paved walkway was put around the perimeter of the reservoir. Dogs are also now walked here, and this is a new influx of even more substances into our bodies of water.

We have many golf courses that add to the nitrogen and phosphorous numbers, although they must comply with mandates.

The report stated that, “downward trends in total Nitrogen are because of improvements in sewage treatment plants and implementing best-management practices.”

It would be in our best interest to maintain or even increase our current laws aimed at protecting our water. Long term studies such as this report only reinforces this simple concept. Clean water can't be taken for granted.

4. Spring Events:

- **April 1 West Essex Trail Cleanup** – 9 am to 12 noon. The Verona Environmental Commission teamed up with the Cedar Grove Environmental Commission and Essex County Parks to do a community cleanup of the West Essex Trail. The Hilltop Conservancy and Sustainable Verona are also participating in the cleanup.

Gloria distributed waivers for all members to complete and sign. Volunteers will be split up into multiple teams with captains for each area, and remove garbage from Fairview Avenue in Verona to Pompton Avenue in Cedar Grove.

The VEC is teaming up with several local organizations. Theresa Trapp from the Hilltop Conservancy, Mara Silgailis from the Cedar Grove Environmental Commission, Steve Neale from Sustainable Verona, and Gloria will be acting as captains for the day. The West Essex Trail Warriors (W.E.T. Warriors) are a group of runners that have been using this trail for over 10 years. The Essex Offroad MTB Team, families and coaches are also participating, the students usually train on that trail. This is the only Essex County park where cycling is allowed and everybody shares the trail, hikers, runners, dog walkers, it is a very popular spot. VHS and MSU are also recruiting volunteers and most VEC members are participating.

All volunteers require a signed waiver, available on the VEC's website and at the event. Parents must sign waivers for minors under 18 years of age. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Everybody should use caution when handling trash, and avoid hazardous materials like broken glass. Long pants, long sleeve shirts, sturdy work boots, reusable water bottles, and gloves are recommended.

VEC members will meet at 8:40 am at the parking lot of Aqua Products, 280 Grove Ave. in Cedar Grove. The parking lot is at the end of Lewis Road (40 Lewis Rd), with easy access to the trail. Volunteers are authorized to park there and use the dumpsters.

Another group will meet at the West Essex Trail entrance located 201 Fairview Avenue near Sampson Drive in Verona. Theresa Trapp will captain that group with volunteers from the Hilltop Conservancy.

Gloria visited the trail with Frank and talked to the people at Aqua Products. Peter Tripod, head of human resources authorized to use the parking lot. They also gave them flyers to invite employees to participate and posted flyers on the trail kiosks. Sean printed 20 posters and Gloria hang up the posters at the schools, library, community center, bagel shop, jucery...

Frank and Gloria took a look at the furnace located on the West Essex Trail by the sidewalk on Durrell. It is not a furnace, it's a piece of railway equipment. The Googled searched for US&S Corp https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Union_Switch_%26_Signal Union Switch and Signal (US&S) is a supplier of railway signaling equipment, systems and services in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The company was founded in 1881. They sent pictures to Bob Williams, the historian. He said It would be nice if it could be closed up and painted, and perhaps place a small sign to explain a little of the history of the railroad since it is a relic of the old railroad. Gloria contacted Sandra Smith from the Verona Landmarks Preservation Commission and the Town Manager with the info and pics, she copied their liaison, Nochimson. Sandra will share this with the commission and also go and have a look. Volunteers could clean up that area and open a path to have easier access.

Mr. Cavallo confirmed yesterday that Verona will provide a DPW truck with two employees for the cleanup and that our DPW will check with Cedar Grove and Essex County about the list that we requested, meaning a truck, help from employees, tools, wheelbarrows and cleaning supplies.

The VEC requested from Essex County Parks a Public Works truck to cart away large items such as tires, a staff member to help with the cleanup, 40 work gloves, garbage bags,

recycling bins, several rakes and shovels, 3 wheelbarrows, a hand-truck and a plastic folding table.

The Superintendent of Schools, Rui Dionisio informed Gloria that the enclosed area within the new fencing between VHS and the trail will not be able to be cleaned up by students and community members. Since that area is now closed off because of DEP requirements due to the historic fill, only school maintenance and custodial staff will be permitted in this area. He requested Mr. Trause, Director of Facilities, to arrange for this area to be cleaned up in the spring.

• **Monday April 3 - 7 pm Essex County Environmental Commission Roundtable**

about Alternative Fueled Vehicles in Municipalities at Essex County Verona Park Boathouse, Senior Room. Two N.J. transportation experts will spotlight success stories of how some towns and cities are supporting the transition to electric cars with public charging stations for pluggable vehicles, as well as other alternative fuel options for medium- and heavy-duty fleet vehicles. Following will be an opportunity for any environmental organizations to share some successes and barriers of the issues on which they are working in their communities.

Light refreshments will be served. Please register at

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ecec-environmental-roundtable-april-2017-tickets-32406704325>

Sarah and Frank are planning to attend. Mayor Ryan mentioned that he was not sure if he could attend, since the same night is the Verona Town Council Meeting but looks like it could be canceled due to lack of quorum.

• **ANJEC grant / Rain Gardens / Green Infrastructure**

Green infrastructure is an approach to stormwater management that is cost-effective, sustainable, and environmentally friendly. It reduces stormwater runoff and helps restore the natural water cycle. Examples: Downspout Disconnection, Cisterns, Rainbarrels, Rain Gardens, Planter Boxes, Bioswales, Permeable / Green Parking. According to Rutgers some communities remain hesitant to adopt green infrastructure practices, therefore they developed a program and manual:

<http://water.rutgers.edu/GreenInfrastructureGuidanceManual.html>

New Jersey has covered 12.1% of the land with impervious surfaces. Impervious cover in Essex County range from 10% to over 50%. Pollutants accumulate on these surfaces, during a one-inch rainfall event, 18.3 billion gallons of stormwater drains from these surfaces, and many drain directly to water bodies, without any treatment. Impervious surfaces also prevent rainfall from infiltrating into the ground to replenish the state's aquifers.

VEC members approved to support installing green infrastructure in Verona. Rutgers is working on an Impervious Cover Assessment and a Reduction Action Plan for Verona. Proposed projects include two rain gardens at the Community Center and field complex, a possible porous pavement parking lot by the Library and a cistern and community garden.

The VEC was hoping to receive approval to apply for the ANJEC grant for \$1500 due on April 7, to install one of the proposed rain gardens. For the application we need a full description of deliverables, schedule and budget. <http://www.anjec.org/EnvCommissionGrantPrograms.htm>

One of the grant categories is Educational stormwater management projects on open space. Christopher Perez, Program Associate at Rutgers Cooperative Extension Water Resources Program sent Gloria the rain garden plans and details for a single rain garden proposed at the athletic complex. They are in a draft form and are intended to provide an example of one of several potential green infrastructure project for the complex.

Sean presented the project to VEC members, it consists of the construction of a 700 square foot rain garden at the Verona athletic complex. The rain garden is designed to manage stormwater runoff generated by an adjacent 800 square foot rooftop drainage area. Two downspouts from the building will be redirected into the rain garden. excess stormwater will overflow to an existing catch basin through a proposed trench drain in the sidewalk.

Gloria sent the plans to Verona Engineer Helb and Town Manager Cavallo. Today Mr. Helb informed Gloria that he reviewed the proposed location and he is concerned with the location due to several underground utilities within the area that may conflict with the plan that may need to be relocated. In addition a major storm drain also traverses the site of the rain garden that cannot be relocated. He added that any plan that is recommended would need to be approved by the Mayor and council. VEC members were aware of this.

Sean asked Gloria to request existing conditions drawings from Mr. Helb and Mr. Cavallo for this area so we know what we are dealing with on utilities. He added that the depth of the rain garden work will be less than 24 inches below existing grade. Most utilities are buried at least 3 to 4 feet below grade for frost protection. Gloria requested the drawings and Mr. Helb replied that the Township has not yet received an "as-built" drawing for the project from the contractor. He added that not all utilities are located below 24" and may therefore result in a conflict which would then need to have the utility relocated if possible. Mr. Cavallo added that there is current litigation for outstanding matters at this complex. One of them being the as built site plans. Gloria showed pictures of the site that she took last weekend and said that even though she is not an expert on playground design, the concrete cubs around the playgrounds look unsafe for young kids since they can trip and hit their heads there. Walter agreed and added that the new playground looks like it doesn't meet ASTM F1487 code (Standard Consumer Safety Performance Specification for Playground Equipment for Public Use). Walter mentioned that he was a certified inspector because up until he went to Australia, he reviewed manufacturing and install designs for a company that manufactured play areas.

Sean suggested to stay away from making any plans for the upper fields until the litigation ends and focus on the other proposed location for a rain garden, Tony agreed and suggested to revisit the plans for the upper fields after the litigation ends.

VEC members voted and decided that until things get resolved with the litigation, we should shift focus to the other proposed location for a rain garden in front of the main building of the Verona Community Center. Sean estimates that the triangular area near the evergreen tree by the main door of the VCC has 200 square feet. Gloria added that Rutgers estimates that the cost of installing a rain garden is about \$5 per square feet, therefore the installation of a 200 sq. ft. rain garden will cost about \$1,000, or less if volunteers and DPW help with the digging. The VEC will inform Mr. Cavallo and Mr. Helb of this recommendation and requested feedback and existing conditions drawings of the new site to consider utilities when creating plans.

• **April 22 Grove Park Tree Giveaway:**

Gloria sent in the NJ Tree Recovery Application to receive 300 seedlings to be distributed, 5 per resident, at Grove Park on Saturday, April 22 from 8 am to 12 noon. Our Seedling Pick-up date is Friday April 21, 9am to 3pm at the Essex County Environmental Center like last year - 621 Eagle Rock Road, Roseland, NJ 07068 – 973-228-8776 - They don't take request for species. The VEC will also conduct a cleanup and has supplies, DPW will provide a table.

5. Updates:

• Verona Organic Community Garden / VHS

Sean provided Mr. Cavallo with a siting study that shows the fence and existing trees. The VEC is always advocating for the preservation of trees so the idea is to preserve all healthy trees. The trees make the site interesting and special, there is plenty of space for 20 plots in full sun without removing any trees, and we could put some benches under the trees so the gardeners can take a break in the shade. There is at least one manhole within the proposed garden area, and perhaps a second one that has been covered up by black filter fabric.

Usually plots are 10' by 15'. Caldwell has 30 plots in their community garden. Including an area for composting, gardening tools storage and the required space to walk around the plots. Sean was concerned that there actually might be more portions of the site that had historical structures there that were demolished and later backfilled. Seeing a map from 1947, the area of the proposed community garden might be impacted by such structures. I contacted Mr. Trause, he said all the historic fill areas are inside the fencing. All VEC members approved to get more information about this site from the BOE, the Town Engineer or the contractor, LandTek Group.

• Open Streets / Fairview Avenue

At VEC's last meeting Mr. Cavallo proposed to simplify things and host the open streets festival in Verona, on Fairview Ave., he explained that it's easy to close it Sunday morning during the summer without creating any gridlock. We talked about closing the streets to motorists from Franklin Street to Read Avenue (0.8 miles) and inviting Cedar Grove to participate, in case they wanted to expand the route towards the north.

Gloria sent the information to Mara Silgailis, Chairperson for the Cedar Grove Environmental Commission and she presented the proposal to her membership. They do not want to participate in the Open Streets event, they like the idea but not for Cedar Grove. Mara said the 3 main streets in Cedar Grove are county (Ridge Road and Fairview Avenue) and a state highway (Rt 23) – so she thinks that they can't use them.

Regarding bike lanes on Fairview Avenue (or other street), Cedar Grove Environmental Commission decided that they totally supports painted line bike lanes and lots of signs but not anything involving barriers, due to cost, and also because many residences have small narrow (frequently steep) driveways on Fairview Avenue and parking on the street is essential for them. Gloria sent this information to Mr. Cavallo who said that In light of Cedar Grove's email that they are in no interested in an Open Streets event, the location of Fairview Avenue does not seem wise anymore as the only reason for selecting that street was to share with Cedar Grove. As we talked about at the meeting he doesn't see a joint effort with West Orange to be forthcoming either. From a public safety perspective he recommends to come up with another location that would be less disruptive to the residents and commuters. He doesn't see the community at-large supporting the closure of a major artery to Western Essex County (Fairview, Grove, Bloomfield or Lakeside/PVW) for this purpose. Also, if the event was to happen anywhere in town Memorial Day, Labor Day and 4th of July weekends are out of the picture.

Gloria told him that we are saddened that the Cedar Grove Env. Commission isn't interested on Open Streets and that only 2 of their members are planning to attend the cleanup, but we have plenty of support in Verona. At our last meeting Mr. Cavallo proposed to simplify things and host the open streets festival in Verona, on Fairview Ave., and explained that it's easy to close it Sunday morning during the summer without creating any gridlock. We talked about closing the streets to motorists from Franklin Street to Read Avenue (0.8 miles).

Gloria suggested to re consider, a far less disruptive option would be closing Fairview Ave. from Franklin to Durell (0.4 miles) and it will work perfectly well for the festival. We could also team up with the BOE and Partners for Health Foundation. Sean suggested to also propose to have a free pool day on the same day, immediately after the open streets event. **All present VEC members voted and approved this plan.**

The event's goal is to promote active travel to help reach the recommended daily levels of physical activity of at least 30 minutes per day and help reduce CO2 emissions. Cycling could help cut carbon emissions from urban transportation 11 percent according to the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy. At the Climate Change Summit the US committed to reducing its carbon emissions by nearly 30% over the coming decade. But getting more people to bike means we need to invest in cycling infrastructure.

• **Bicycle Infrastructure for Verona**

The VEC recognizes the need to provide convenient, secure bicycle infrastructure such as bike lanes and bike parking for residents, employees and shoppers. With regard to the proposed bike lanes on Fairview Ave., Mr. Cavallo said he will be meeting with the county later this week and will get back to us. If the County and a Cedar Grove were to agree to the lanes, it would probably need to wait until at least the old hospital center is completely demolished and possibly the new residential development is completed. However, he said, it should be known that the Townships opinion is that bicycle lanes in Verona would be designated by line striping only. No permanent barriers would be installed. Also, this is not going to be as simple as 1-2-3, he is sure the County as well as Cedar Grove will need to weigh public comment from residents and businesses where these bike lanes will be located as parking around their business on these roadways will be eliminated by these lanes. he for one can not support elimination of parking between Personnette and Bloomfield Avenue on Grove or Fairview due to complains about parking situation.

Gloria explained that she doesn't think that Verona has a parking problem, she thinks that Verona has a walking problem, there are plenty of available spots to park and then walk a short distance to your final destination. Martin Golan agreed and added that when he lived in Montclair you were happy if you could find a parking spot within two blocks of your destination.

For example, the VHS old and new parking lots were both empty last Saturday, but about 15 cars were parked by VHS' main entrance on the "no parking/no standing fire lane". Gloria took pictures and sent them to Police Chief Stern, he told Gloria that they are aware of the situation and that there are some issues with the way the signs are posted, and the fire lane will be enforced after correcting the signs.

The school and the police sent emails asking people to avoid parking there. The current signs are pretty clear "no parking/no standing fire lane". The parking lot is half a block from the main entrance and it was empty. Nevertheless 15 cars were parked on the fire lane. This looks like a walking problem, Gloria added.

Also, Roz Bielski from Pleasant Valley Civic Association attended the Verona Town Council meeting and talked about the need to implement Vision Zero and Complete Streets policy. She also mentioned that she is still trying to work with us on an Open Streets event. Montclair had an Open Streets festival in 2015 and 2016. New Brunswick has several Cyclovias (Open Streets) every year. Many towns close several roads for events like West Orange did from 11 am to 3 pm last weekend for St. Patrick's Day. Cyndi Steiner from New Jersey Bike & Walk

Coalition told me that they'll advertise the event, if we host it! She mentioned the liability argument doesn't apply, mode of transportation is immune to liability claims under NJ Tort law and neighboring Passaic County, with its Complete Streets implementations, is making our county look like we are stuck in the 1950s.

Tara Casella mentioned that cycling can only take place on paved roadways that run through Verona Park. Porcello Lane is the only roadway that runs through Verona Park and there is perpendicular parking there, unfortunately we can't encourage young kids to ride by the cars there or on any Essex County Road in Verona, it's too dangerous for young kids and there are no bike lanes in town.

Gloria recommended considering the facts stated in this article:

http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2017/03/at_least_8_pedestrians_killed_this_month_in_traffic.html

"While New Jersey's roads have a relatively low rate of accidents involving vehicles only compared to other states, the state is among the most treacherous for pedestrians. In 2015, nearly a third of all motor-vehicle fatalities -- a total of 173 -- were people on foot killed by drivers. Nationwide, pedestrian fatalities in motor-vehicle accidents accounted for just 15 percent of victims, according to the state Division of Highway Traffic Safety."

Members also cited the New Jersey Department of Transportation Bike / Pedestrian Plan released in November 2016: <http://njbikepedplan.com/>

According to Reuters Health "Bike lanes are a sound public health investment"

Gloria proposed, specially for the VHS area, where there is not parking already in front of the school, a protected bike lane with delineator posts, which are one of the safer and cheapest options (paths beside sidewalks) instead of painting door zone bike lanes, the so-called door zone can be fatal if someone in a parked car opens their door at the wrong time.

All present VEC members voted in support of bike lanes in Verona with the caveat that, if biking lanes are installed in front of a school, such as VHS on Fairview Ave., the bike lane needs to be a protected bike lane to ensure safety.

Painting an unprotected bike lane in a busy road in front of a school is like painting a crosswalk without installing a traffic light, it gives a false sense of security.

VEC members reviewed guidelines of 14 types of protected bike lanes and recommend Delineator posts, which are safer and cheaper than other options.

Verona High School, the entrance of the West Essex Trail, the Hilltop Reservation and the new Cedar Grove Community Center are all located on Fairview Ave. and therefore bike lanes make a lot of sense there.

6. New Business.

Gloria asked Mr. Cavallo if there are any news on the e-plans ordinance. So far we reviewed 4 applications this year (thank you Jess and Sean!) The electronic submission would help expedite the process. Architects still only have the embossing-type raised seal. This means for any plan sealed by an architect the official submission would still need to be a hard copy and the electronic copy would be for review only. Regardless, the electronic submission would help get more eyes on the submission than with the hard copy alone.

Mr. Cavallo said that until the entire Zoning Code is updated to require checklists, he is not going to pursue completing this. They are looking to hire a new Planner to completely revise the Zoning Code.

7. Public Participation: Carolyn Rubinfeld (NJWAP Watershed Ambassador WMA 4) will also team up with the VEC for the West Essex Rail Trail cleanup, her previous April 1st cleanup was canceled suddenly by the project partner. One of the Ambassador Requirements is to do a total of 8 community engagement projects. Verona is outside of PVSC's jurisdiction, so she is unable to obtain cleaning supplies from them, but she could give a talk to the students volunteers during a break at 11 am for example, about the trail and the Peckman River. The trail crosses a trestle over the Peckman River, they could take a nature walk to the bridge and look at the Devil's Hole falls, probably the most beautiful point of the trail. From our meeting point is an 8 min. walk each way. It is not easy or safe to get down to the falls from the trail so they group will just look from above on the bridge and trail.

Adjournment – Next Meeting April 19, 2017.