

# WESTVILLE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

December 31, 2008

## ANNUAL REPORT

### COMMISSIONERS

Joyce Lovell, Chair  
Stephanie Wilson, Vice-Chair  
Fred Coleman, Treasurer  
Marie Callaghan, Recording Secretary  
Virginia Horn, Corresponding Secretary  
Michael Sautter  
Luanna Sills

### MEETINGS

The Commission meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month at 114 Crown Point Road at 7 PM. Meetings are suspended during the months of July & August. Minutes of the meetings are emailed to the Councilman Pennington and the Borough Clerk for inclusion on the Borough's web site.

Attendance at meetings: Chair Lovell - 100%  
Commissioners: Callaghan - 100%  
Coleman - 80%  
Horn - 100%  
Sautter - 70%  
Sills - 90%  
Wilson - 40% (health, school & work issues)

### COMMISSIONER TRAINING

#### **March 13 - ANJEC New Flood Hazard Rules & Stream Protection – Bordentown**

Chair Lovell, Commissioners Coleman, Horn & Sills

Cost \$10 per person, free to Westville Commissioners because we are on ANJEC's Workshop Plan

#### **March 29 - ANJEC 2008 Commissioner's Course – Bordentown**

Chair Lovell, Commissioners Horn & Sills

- EC Powers & Responsibilities
- Creating or Updating an Environmental Resource Inventory
- Master Plans & Environmental Ordinances
- Site Plan Review

Cost \$35 per person, free to Westville Commissioners because we are on ANJEC's Workshop Plan

#### **April 4 - ANJEC South Jersey Bay Shore Inventory Computer Training Workshop at Rowan University**

Chair Lovell

Cost \$10 per person, free to Westville Commissioners because we are on ANJEC's Workshop Plan

## COMMISSIONER TRAINING CON'T

**April 17 — Groundwater Supply and Ecosystem Needs Water Allocation Workshop** – sponsored by the Pinelands Preservation Alliance  
Commissioners Horn & Coleman  
Free

**April 23 and April 29 – Bird Quest Training “Birding by Ear”** – held at EIRC  
Sponsorship \$100  
Chair Lovell, Commissioners Callaghan, Coleman, Sills

**May 16 & 17, June 14, July 19 and September 13 - ANJEC “Leading Green” Environmental Leadership Training** – Chair Lovell & Commissioner Horn were two of 15 persons selected for this inaugural environmental leadership training program. Training sessions were held in Princeton-Blairstown Center, Trenton, Secaucus and Newark. Topics included redevelopment, brown fields, preserving open space, lobbying, fundraising, creating a campaign, air issues, creating a waterfront for the public, an eco tour of the Hackensack River, and a toxic tour of the Port of Newark.  
Cost \$80 per person, free to Westville Commissioners because we are on ANJEC’s Workshop Plan

### **June 11, 14 and 25 – ANJEC Environmental Commissioner’s Webinars**

- Effective Commissions
- Land Use Tools
- Site Plan Reviews

Commissioners Callaghan and Sills

Cost \$25 per person, free to Westville Commissioners because we are on ANJEC’s Workshop Plan

**September 29 – “State’s Landscape Project”** – Rutgers Cooperative Extension, Clayton  
Commissioner Horn  
Free

**October 22nd - “How to Install a Rain Garden”**- Rutgers Cooperative Extension, Clayton  
Chair Lovell and Commissioner Horn  
Free

**November 17** – Chair Lovell , Commissioners Horn, Coleman & Callaghan met with Mike Hogan, naturalist with South Jersey land & Water Trust at the pond to discuss stream and pond assessment, native plantings, bank stabilization and hindering the geese population

**TOTAL TRAINING FEES \$365. OFFSET BY \$60.00 ANJEC WORKSHOP PLAN.**

## PUBLIC OUTREACH & EDUCATION

- **Newsletters:** the Commission began writing an environmental newsletter and including it in with the Mayor’s newsletter. A spring, summer and fall issue were completed. Topics included environmentally safe lawn care, ways to conserving water, the importance of trees, and rain barrels.

## PUBLIC OUTREACH & EDUCATION CON'T

- **Earth Day – April 19** - the Commissioners along with 5 other volunteers participated in the Gloucester County Clean Communities Earth Day Clean Up of Old Broadway and earned \$500.00.
- **Gloucester County Bird Quest – May 3** - Chair Lovell, Commissioners Callaghan & Sills participated in Bird Quest with members of the Mantua Environmental Commission.
- **Westville Independence Day Celebration – June 28** at Gallagher Park - Commissioners set up displays on River Drive, including Children’s Clothes Line Art activity, a Rain Barrel demonstration and information. A drawing was held for a free rain barrel. Westville’s Public Works Department trucks collected 1002 pounds of computer, video, audio components which were recycled by Magnum Recycling. Pretzels, soda and water were sold as a fundraiser.
- **Lions Club Yard Sale – October 11 – Thomas West Park –** The Commission set up a compost demonstration table and held a drawing for a free composter, donated by GCIA. Rain barrels were again demonstrated, and kids were invited to make bird feeders to take home.
- **Make a Difference Day – October 25 –** Commission initiated a Clean Up Day with over 100 volunteers to collect trash & debris from many areas of the Borough. Partnered with the Public Works Dept, Wheelabrator, the Boy Scouts, the Womens Club, Friends of Public Safety and individual residents. Two tons of trash and .41 ton of recyclables were collected and transported to Wheelabrator.

## **FUNDRAISING**

- \$143 – sale of pretzels & sodas on June 28
- \$76 – earned from composter benefit drawing on Oct 11

## **GRANTS**

- \$500 – earned by Commission for participation in Gloucester County Clean Communities Earth Day Clean Up of Old Broadway
- \$1,740.00 - a Technical Assistance Grant from the Gloucester County Cultural & Heritage Commission to use for planning for the painting of Edgewater Avenue Bridge Project, i.e., artistic proposals and community outreach.

## **PROJECTS**

- Initiated a partnership between the Borough and Magnum Recycling for electronics recycling
- Built, sold and promoted the use of rain barrels to encourage water conservation. 1 barrel raffled off at Independence Day Celebration, 1 barrel kept on hand as a demo, and 14 sold at cost. Commission has received requests for 9 more and inquiries from surrounding towns on how to build rain barrels.
- Chair Lovell and Commissioners Coleman and Sills attended six meetings of the Westville Land Use Board and provided recommendations on the revised Master Plan and input on proposed developments.

## **PROJECTS CON’T**

- An Education and Community Outreach Committee was formed to secure free materials for school and public use.
- Designed and home-printed business cards for Commissioners.

## **WEB SITE DEVELOPMENT**

- Commissioner Wilson has begun developing a web site for the Commission.

## **AWARDS**

- Honorable Mention at ANJEC's Annual Meeting in October

## **DONATIONS TO COMMISSION – thank you to all for your assistance!**

### **Borough (Mayor Welsh)**

- digital camera, case, monopod, printer, classes - \$279.65
- 1,000 rubber band bracelets w/ environmental messages for give aways - \$300
- 100 free coloring books

### **WPW**

- wrench to open barrels for conversion to rain barrel
- transport to pick up barrels from supplier
- trash pick up on Make A Difference Day
- trucks for electronic recycling collection & transport to Magnum Recycling on June 28

### **Newsletters**

- Gateway HS – photo assistance
- Gloucester County College – newsletter assistance & conversion to PDF files

### **Independence Day Celebration**

- Gateway Diner – ice
- Pisker's bakery – tissue for pretzels
- Brooklawn Shop Rite – 20 packs of soda & iced tea, 10 cases of water

### **Lion's Club Yard Sale Day**

- Lion's Club – free space for the day
- GCIA – free home composter to give away
- Sunoco Eagle Point Refinery – What's Green banner

### **Make A Difference Day**

- BOSS Bancroft Office Support Service – 1,500 flyers
- Wheelabrator – coffee, donuts, lunch, trash bags, gloves, waived tipping fees for trash disposal
- GCIA – safety vests, grabbers, hand scales, gloves, trash bags – provided \$500 grants to BS Troop 40, Women's Club & Friends of Public Safety for participating

### **EPA**

- 580 educational publications to give away to children - "Pest Patrol" , "Reuse & Recycle", "Service Learning"