



**MINUTES
MIDDLESEX COUNTY
WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION/WATERSHED MANAGEMENT GROUP MEETING
HELD AT THE
MIDDLESEX COUNTY PLANNING BOARD MEETING CENTER
March 10, 2014
1:30 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Williams at 1:30 p.m. Notice of this meeting, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-10 and the NJ Water Quality Management Planning Rules, N.J.A.C. 7:15-9.3(b)7, have been complied with and are entered into the minutes of this meeting. A salute to the flag was observed prior to the start of today's meeting.

I. Roll Call

Attendance was as follows:

William Robins	Borough of Dunellen	Not present
Theodore Chase, Jr.	Township of Franklin	Present
Freeholder Charles Tomaro	Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders	Not present
Alan Godber	Lawrence Brook Watershed Partnership, Inc.	Present
Will Sigle		Not present
Sewell Peckham	Borough of Helmetta	Not present
David Hall	Township of Old Bridge	Not present
Dawn Mc Donald	Borough of Spotswood	Not present
Michael Hill	Freehold Soil Conservation District	Present
Brian Carr	Middlesex Water Company	Not present
Stephen Pospiech	City of Perth Amboy	Not present
Leigh Anne Hindenlang		Not present
Andrew Toth		Not present
Donald Newton	Borough of Sayreville	Not present
Tim Eppinger		Not present
Dawn Corcoran-Gardella	Township of Piscataway	Present
Vincent Martino	Middlesex County Planning Board	Not present
Siegfred Hubak	Township of Woodbridge	Not present
Alice Tempel	Borough of South Plainfield	Present
Brian Racin	Borough of South River	Present
Bryan Bidlack	Township of South Brunswick	Not present
Leigh Jones	Township of East Brunswick Water and Sewage	Not present
Anne Zeman	League of Women Voters	Not present
Ron Yake	Township of Plainsboro	Present
Les Varga		Not present
John Riggs	Township of Monroe	Not present

I. Roll Call (continued)

George Ververides Mirah Becker Laurie Sobel Nicholas Tufaro Alexander Zakrewsky Joseph Smalley	Middlesex County Office of Planning	Present Present Present Present Not present Present
Sharon Martens	Middlesex Cty. Dept. of Public Health – Environmental Division	Not present
Ken Klipstein Kathy Hale Richard Anthes Elsye Foladane	NJ Water Supply Authority	Not present Not present Not present Not present
Richard Fitamant Kevin Aiello	Middlesex County Utilities Authority	Not present Not present
Daria Ludas	Borough of Jamesburg	Not present
Doug Robertson Glenn Sandor	Township of North Brunswick	Not present Not present
Allan Williams	Highland Park Environmental Commission	Present
Rick Lear	Middlesex County Parks and Recreation Department	Not present
Michele Bakacs	Rutgers Cooperative Extension	Present
Judy Shaw Sara Malone	Rutgers Sustainable Raritan Initiative	Not present Present
Denise Nickel	Middlesex County Improvement Authority	Not present
Suzan Colon	Old Bridge Twp. Environmental and Open Space Committee	Present
Lindsey Sigmund Anastasia Figueroa Peter Canavan	Raritan Scholars Program	Present Present Present

II. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting – January 13, 2014

The minutes of the meeting of January 13, 2014 were distributed prior to today’s meeting. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the minutes as presented.

III. Presentation by Raritan Scholars – Anastasia Figueroa, Peter Canavan & Lindsey Sigmund on Connecting the Raritan River to Communities through Art

The Raritan Scholars made a presentation on Connecting the Raritan River to Communities through Art. Highlights of the presentation included an overview of the project, overarching goals, river photos, public outreach, implementation of a community art project, examples of mural renderings, and potential funding sources. A copy of their presentation is attached to the minutes of today’s meeting.

IV. Manalapan Brook Watershed Protection and Restoration Plan (Freehold Soil Conservation District/County)

Mr. Hill provided a project update. A subcontractor meeting will be scheduled in the near future. RFPs will be released soon. Mr. David McPartland from NJDEP has been providing some assistance on the project.

V. Lawrence Brook Watershed Flood Control Project (LBWP)

See New Business for a report.

VI. Green Brook Flood Control Commission

Mr. Ververides reported that the project is continuing. In reference to work being done in Middlesex County, the pumping station in Middlesex Borough failed and more parts are needed to repair it. The county is working closely with NJDEP to set up a maintenance guide because upon completion of the projects, each county will be responsible for maintaining the levees and pumping stations.

VII. Sustainable Raritan River Initiative (Sara Malone)

Ms. Malone provided an update on the Sustainable Raritan River Initiative. Presently there is a Raritan Studio project underway for Redwood Creek in Raritan Center. There are 16 students participating in the studio. A presentation on the studio is scheduled for April 23. The annual Sustainable Raritan River Conference will be held at Cook College on June 13. A Remediation Workshop is also being planned for the fall.

VIII. Raritan Basin Watershed Plan/Raritan Basin Watershed Alliance (NJWSA)

Nothing to report.

IX. Middlesex County Wastewater Management Plan (WMP)

Ms. Becker reported that staff is working closely with the County Administrator to come up with a strategy for moving forward with a new map and plan based on the new legislation which extended the deadline for completing the SSA map and plan for two years. The map is being updated to use the most recent 3.1 environmental data layer. Staff has contacted NJDEP to obtain approval of this approach. Staff is also proposing to meet with each municipality to review their mapping and municipal chapter before March 2015.

X. Watershed/Water Quality Management Plan Implementation Projects

- D & R Canal Tributary (Franklin) Project (NJWSA)
- Cedar Grove Brook (Franklin) Watershed Restoration Plan (NJWSA)

Ms. Becker stated that Ms. Hale indicated that NJWSA submitted a 319 grant application for work in the Cedar Grove Brook Watershed.

XI. Correspondence

There was no Correspondence reviewed at today's meeting.

XII. Old Business

- State Strategic Plan

Nothing to report.

XIII. New Business

- **Old Bridge Open Space Committee Update**

Ms. Colon gave an update on open space projects in Old Bridge. Members of the Old Bridge Open Space Committee have embarked on native planting projects in three locations. They are planning to apply for a grant from ANJEC to install deer fencing in the area. Also, they would like to prepare a brochure geared to homeowners on the use of native plantings.

- **National Recreational Trail Grant Program**

Mr. Williams informed everyone that the federal National Recreational Trail Grant Program which runs through NJDEP has received numerous applications, but they are not distributing any funding. ANJEC has started a letter writing campaign and is encouraging municipalities and organizations to write to Commissioner Bob Martin requesting NJDEP to start to distribute the funding. A motion was made, seconded and approved to write a letter to Commissioner Martin on behalf of the WRA.

- **Lawrence Brook Watershed Partnership (LBWP)**

The fish ladder project continues. The LBWP will continue the work of the project, including ongoing monitoring, holding a public meeting to report on the results of the study and future plans for the project. Data gathered from the stream gauges over the coming months will be shared with all stakeholders.

XIV. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

XV. Next meeting, date, time and place

The next WRA meeting was scheduled for Monday, May 12, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. in the first floor planning meeting center. Professor Anton Nelessen will be presenting on a Rutgers University study on how to stem flooding in Sayreville.

XVI. Adjournment

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

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