

NEW JERSEY CLEAN WATER COUNCIL

June 12, 2007
Meeting Highlights

Location:

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, 401 East State Street –
Narinder Ahuja's Conference Room – 2nd floor, Trenton, New Jersey

Attendees

Members: Ferdows Ali, Jim Cosgrove, Russ Furnari, Amy Goldsmith, Pamela Goodwin,
Mary Beth Koza, Tony McCracken, Lou Mason Neely, Jessica Sanchez, Dan Van Abs

Others: Helen Heinrich, Narinder Ahuja, Stan Cach, Nick Horiates, Debbie Esposti, Doug Carroll,
Bill Mates, Gerry Skrajewski

Meeting convened by Pamela Goodwin at 10:10 a.m. Pam thanked Narinder and Stan for their hospitality since the meeting had been rescheduled from the Trust to the DEP Building. She also thanked them for the refreshments and parking accommodations.

APPROVAL OF MAY 2007 MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

The Minutes were approved as distributed.

OLD BUSINESS:

In response to the CWC request, Narinder Ahuja offered Division of Water Quality's assistance in improving the Council's Website and asked the Council as to what kind of improvements it would like to see. Three DEP staff (Nick Horiates, Debbie Esposti and Doug Carroll) discussed the subject with the CWC Members and offered some suggestions. The following comments were discussed:

- The Council wants the Website kept current;
- Update the names/titles of the Members and their tenor;
- Minutes and Agendas need to be on the Website;
- Presentations that were given to CWC Members would be available;
- Put the Record of the Public Hearing; the CWC Chairperson's letter and DEP's Response to the Council on the Website;
- A Notice of Upcoming Events;
- CWC Mission Statement should be posted;
- A Message from the Chairperson could be on the Website;
- DEP links that direct people to specific Statutes and Regulations would be helpful;
- It is most important to get all the info on Website accurate and accessible to the public.
- There should be 1 or 2 links to the DEP Website relevant to the Public Hearing Topic.

A comment was made to check the Clean Air Council Website and make recommendations about further info we might want to see on the CWC Website similar to content on the Clean Air Council Website.

It was decided that the immediate needs for the Website should be: Update the Members/Contacts Page; list the Meeting Dates for the Year; post the Minutes/Agenda/Presentations, etc. Everyone was directed to look at the Website, and Mary Beth Koza will be the liaison to get the information to Stan Cach.

NEW BUSINESS:

Bill Mates gave his Presentation on the NJ natural capital project. To summarize, the Key points on the Natural Capital Project were:

- Purpose of study was to estimate economic value of services and goods provided by New Jersey's natural ecosystems.
- Ecosystems are capital assets that provide goods & services over time.
- NJ's ecosystems are highly valuable, providing at least \$26 Bn per yr (in 2004 dollars) of services and goods, with a present value of at least \$850 Bn.
 - * Estimated values are conservative, especially for ecosystem services.
- The findings reframe the entire land use discussion: the issue is not environment vs. economy but balance of physical and natural capital.
- DEP is working to identify areas where the findings and approach can be applied.

The CWC Members were very interested and shared their opinions and comments with Bill.

OLD BUSINESS (continued):

Discussed the Report (attached) prepared by Dan Van Abs and the Ad Hoc Committee regarding the Topic, *New Jersey Water Infrastructure*, for the CWC Public Hearing. The Structure of the Day and the Speakers were all discussed in detail. Dan will revise the Report per today's input and send it to the Members for their review. Please give Dan any additional comments/updates ASAP as time is running short.

Report of the By-laws Review Committee: There are 2 comments to consider: Should we add a 2nd Vice Chairperson? Should we change the timing of assuming the position. Instead of taking over in September, it is probably better to take over at the end of the year and be in place for January 1st since the Public Hearing is now in October. This will be discussed further at next month's meeting.

Report of Education Event Planning Committee: Report will be made at next meeting.

DEP UPDATES:

No Report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

No Announcements.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

**** THE NEXT MEETING of the Clean Water Council will be on July 10, 2007, beginning at 10:00 A.M., at the NJ Environmental Infrastructure Trust, Building 6, Suite 201, 3131 Princeton Pike, Lawrenceville, NJ ****