ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
February 19, 2007

Present: John Kashwick, Beth Ravit, David Scholz, Steve Isaacson, Richard Ryan, Mary Mayer, Arthur Goldberg, Adrienne Isacoff; and Bobbi Goldberg representing the Historical Society

Commenced: 8:00 P.M.

Old Business:

1. Review of Minutes: Approved as adjusted
2. No Public Comments

New Business:

1. Signs for the trails were discussed. The types of signs needed include trailblazers, small signs at entry points, historic signs and descriptions of vegetation. The signs should be no larger than 10” by 15” with 2-3 lines of copy. Bobbi Goldberg stated that the Historical Society may be able to assist with the historic signs. Mary Mayer will assist with the signs regarding vegetation. A sign will be erected advising not to cross the school area when school or games are in session.

2. Benches for the trails were discussed. They could be similar to the one used in Demarest which are maintenance free.

3. Trash receptacles for the trails were discussed. It was agreed that it would be best not to have trash receptacles, because they become overloaded and attract raccoons.

4. Smaller bridges were discussed. DPW may build them or they may be pre-fab with installation by DPW. Telephone polls were generally considered unacceptable because of possible creosote. The trails subcommittee will meet again to discuss this topic.

5. Crosswalks were discussed. It was suggested that they be painted in some way to designate the trails.

6. Blanch Avenue trails: work will start mid-May. Contracts have been signed.

7. McBain Farm: Mary Mayer presented the quarterly report. There was not much spent this quarter – mainly on mowing and snow removal. Mary also indicated that in a February letter by John, he complained that Open Space grant money was not being used for the farm. However, Open Space grant money has been used for fencing, the kiosk, the walkway for the Rose Garden and for preliminary
work for the barn. John was requested to give plans for the barn before the next phase could be started. Mary will explain this to John.

Beth Ravit questioned whether McBain Farm can grow vegetables organically. John is open to exploring this. Beth will look into whether there is grant money that could help get this started.

8. Buzzoni: In the Spring, DPW should clear away cylinders and trailers. Dave Scholz will speak to John DeStefano about this.

9. Master Plan: Anjec was very pleased with the turn-out of the Green Component public meeting. A digital map has been prepared by TRC Environmental, with overlaid zoning maps showing parks and green space. The Conservation Zone still needs to be added once it is adopted. Any Environmental Commission member who believes that corrections should be made to the maps should report back to Beth.

10. Volunteer Park: Mayor and Council need to act on this in order to get the Open Space grant. If no action is taken, Open Space funding may go to other municipalities. Dave Scholz will send a letter from the Environmental Commission to the Mayor and Council about this.

11. Tree Ordinance: review of the new ordinance adopted by Tenafly was tabled for the next meeting.

12. Plan review: Lots 1 and 2, Block 1306 were reviewed and comments sent to the Planning Board

The Meeting was adjourned at 10:02.