

**Lower Delaware Wild & Scenic River Management Council Meeting**: **Thursday,** **June 25, 2020**

[www.lowerdelawarewildandscenic.org](http://www.lowerdelawarewildandscenic.org)

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Steering Committee Chair, Richard Dodds. The meeting was held virtually via Zoom. There were approximately 30 plus attendees, including 5 members of the Steering Committee, one Delaware River Greenway Partnership staff member, and a National Park Service staff member.

**Council Business:**

* Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Martie Kyde, seconded by Norm Torkelson, to accept the December 5, 2019 meeting minutes, previously posted at [www.lowerdelawarewildandscenic.org](http://www.lowerdelawarewildandscenic.org). Passed.
* River of the Year: Liz Deardorff, Geographer and Director for American Rivers, gave an introduction to the American Rivers video highlighting the selection of the Delaware River as 2020 River of the Year. The video was played for meeting participants.
* 2020 Mini-Grants: It was announced that the following organizations will share $20,000 in Lower Delaware Wild & Scenic River funding: Bridgeton Township, PA for a study: Bridgeton Township steep slope protection; Bucks County Audubon Society for invasive plant management: Honey Hollow Creek – Riparian Buffer and Erosion Mitigation; Delaware Riverkeeper Network for advocacy: Protecting the Tohickon Creek on Historical Community Upgrade Petition; NJ Conservation Foundation for a study and research: Protecting Water Quality in the Delaware River Watershed, eDNA Testing for the Highly Invasive Chinese Pond Mussel; Trout Unlimited for a survey: Evaluating Road-Stream Crossings for Aquatic Organism Passage in the Lower Delaware Wild & Scenic River Municipalities.
* Ongoing Environmental/Land Use Matters Being Tracked: Updates were provided on the following matters: PADEP Tohickon Creek Downgrade Proposal (Upper Bucks County, PA); NJDEP Devil’s Tea Table Rockfall Mitigation Along Route 29 (Kingwood Township, NJ); Warehouse Development Proposal (White Township, NJ); PennEast Pipeline Project; Francis E. Walter Dam Revaluation Study; Headquarters Bridge Construction, Tinicum Township, PA. Questions and comments were shared by the meeting participants.
* Acknowledgement of Val Sigstedt – Council members acknowledged the significant contributions of former Steering Committee member Val Sigstedt to the Point Pleasant, PA community and to the Lower Delaware Wild & Scenic River. Val recently died.
* Municipal Announcement: Updates were shared about issues, concerns, and activities in Durham (PA), Upper Mt Bethel Twp (PA), Bridgeton Twp (PA), and Stockton (NJ).

**Speaker:**

* Keynote Speaker: Sarah Bursky, NPS Community Planner/Rivers Manager and Liaison to the Lower Delaware addressed the group, “*Joining You in the Lower Delaware Region: An Introduction and Feedback Session to Build*

*Momentum Going Forward.”* Her detailed presentation covered the history and role of the Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers Program. She suggested reviewing the NPS PWSR Toolkit found at <https://rms.memberclicks.net/PWSRToolkit>.

**Conclusion:**

* Next Meetings & Adjournment: The next meetings are scheduled for Thursday, September 24, 2020 and Thursday, December 3, 2020. Times and locations will be announced at a later date. With no new business, meeting adjourned at 11:40 AM.