



Management Council Meeting Unapproved Minutes

Thursday, June 30, 2022

10:00 AM– 11:30 PM via Zoom

(Visit www.lowerdelawarewildandscenic.org for the Zoom and for additional reference information.)

Attendance: Lois Alexa, David Alexa, Richard Dodds, Tara Mezzanotte, Bob Hornby, Stephen Willey, Michael Thompson, Jackie Middleton, CC Hopf, Sarah Bursky, David Chait, Sandra Wonsidler, Adam DePaul, Sara Sayed, JR Fisher, Bill Brown, Judith Henckel, James Engel, Lauren Walters, John Francis, and Louise Feder.

Call to order 10:01 by Richard

1. Welcome - Richard Dodds, Chairman

- Approval of March 2022 Minutes (attached)
- Bob Hornby motion to approve, Tara second
- Tara-Pg 2 rockfall 5th bullet, add Federally Recognized Lenape Tribes.
- Unanimously approved minutes

2. Michael Thompson-DRBC (20 minutes) water withdrawals between now and 2060.

- Trying to answer the question of what the future water demands will be
- Provide projections through 2060
- Predictions based on, equations, algorithms, and reports
- Peak water withdrawal in the basin has been already reached
- Ties in with LDWS management plan
- Water Use 2060 DRBC-interactive graphs on the map-
<https://www.nj.gov/drbc/basin/map/interactive-map.html>
- Link to presentation: https://www.nj.gov/drbc/library/documents/thompson_water-use_LDWSMC063022.pdf

3. Wild & Scenic Business - Richard Dodds, Chairman (10 Minutes Including Q&A)

- Sarah-Going to finalize the budget and submit it for the cooperative agreement. \$210,000 split between HTL and DRG.
- Richard-Created 3x5 card with LDWS info. QR code for the website.

4. Next Steps on River Use Planning Process with RTCA Program at NPS (10 minutes)

- Richard thanked participants and RTCA
- Cindy-We've been narrowing the list to high-impact items. Mostly centered on:
 - i. Safety
 - ii. Water Quality

5. Sojourn (15 minutes)

- Richard noted Sarah and her son Henry is on the cover of the 6/30 Bucks County Herald
- Lauren-went on Tuesday. Started at Worthington and finished by Belvidere, 94 people. Great experience.
- Sarah-first year was impressed with how smooth running it was and the positive vibe from participants. Very safe, Canoe Safety Patrol did an excellent job.



- Richard-noted their ability to adjust quickly due to weather. Rained Thursday morning and paddled when it cleared up in the afternoon.

6. Delaware River Tributaries and new designations

- Working to get additional tributaries designated.
- Sarah-the work can preempt any industrial projects that may threaten in the future.
- Tributaries that have associations would be the easiest to move along.

7. Mini-Grant Projects Updates — Cindy (5 minutes)

- Completed projects (Cindy shared photos)
 - i. Lambertville Shad Tree Commission
 - ii. Primrose Creek Watershed Association
 - iii. Delaware Township/Bulls Island
 - iv. Aquetong Watershed Association
 - v. Tinicum Township

8. Ongoing Matters (30 Minutes) –

- Rockfall Mitigation Projects - Tara Mezzanotte
 - Tara-Appeal to be on hold but it is not on hold. Not scheduled for construction until 2025, all behind-scenes work is going on. Public and stakeholders need to continue doing work.
 - Archeological studies and field study-report will be out in the fall.
 - Pushing for an environmental impact statement.
 - New project in S curve base of Mt. Tammany, replace retaining wall along I-80, which is in a state of disrepair. Construction 2025.
 - 6 Years \$120 million dollars.
 - Adam-Lenape Nation of PA is requesting environmental studies for rockfall. Involved PA and NJ mayors and wrote formal letters.
 - NPS has been commenting and has an internal coalition working on it.
- September 11th National Memorial Trail Paulinskill Trail/Knowlton to the Gap - Tara Mezzanotte
 - Connects World Trade Center, Pentagon, and Flight 93 national memorials. Travels 10 miles along the river. Not complete yet.
- Warehouse projects – Judy Henkel
 - Sarah-NPS Compliance department who leads when a project affects several parts of NPS. Mark Eberle is taking the lead and sent a letter to set up a way to comment in the future.
 - The LVPC has accepted for review a sketch plan associated with the River Pointe Logistics project located in Upper Mount Bethel Township. The sketch plan conceptualizes 12 industrial buildings totaling 5,873,000 square feet on approximately 804 acres of land. The site is located on River Road, bounded by River Road to the northeast, Pine Tree Lane to the southeast, and Potomac Street to the southwest, approximately 600 feet southwest of the Township border with Portland Borough.
 - Judy-group suing the supervisors and developer got in. Lawsuits were settled.
 - Portland Powerplant is being taken offline, a 126-acre strip along the river. Environmental studies are being done now.
 - 3 different LLCs trying to build warehouses, one developer.
 - Settling pond studies are being done. The old ponds are contaminated with arsenic. EPA in PA allows for partial, building first unit by cleaner ponds and then cleaning up



the rest of the ponds. Cleaning is adding 2 inches of clean soil or cap with a parking lot or building.

- CC-suggested Judy check into the EPA TASC (Technical Assistance for Communities) program. New technology to explore settling ponds. Extra testing can help with stance.
- Trenton Mercer Airport-Expansion has been approved. The expansion will start. We will monitor.
- Delaware River Aqueduct- Was planned for October 2022, closing into the spring of 2023. Now planned for October 1, 2023, through May 31, 2024. These aqueducts pump water into NYC and overflow runs into the Delaware River and need to close for repair.
- Other
 - Adam-Rising Nation River Journey starts July 30th to August 20th. All environmental organizations are invited to reach out, give a presentation, paddle, and sign the treaty.
 - Adam-push to make Delaware Water Gap a national park
 - Sarah-different funding streams and staffing types. Different protections and priorities at NPA.
 - National Park is a higher level
 - Adam-it's controversial-tourism, overuse, and protection. Put on next meeting's agenda.
 - Sarah-to investigate.
 - <https://www.lonelyplanet.com/articles/americas-next-national-park>
 - Lauren-when stopped at Kittatinny for lunch on the Sojourn, there was a lot of traffic, and it was loud

9. 2022 Dates:

- 2022 LDWS Council Meetings: Thursdays at 10:00 AM: Sept. 29 and Dec. 22 (may reschedule since it's so close to the holidays).
 - NJ Clean Communities 5th Annual Delaware River Cleanup: Saturday, Sept. 17
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Adjourn 11:32 am

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86814727295?pwd=VzZ4VC83NU1JemhROEcrbUJERHVoQT09>

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