



Management Council Meeting Minutes (approved)

Thursday, March 23, 2023 10:00 AM– 11:30 PM via Zoom

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

Call to order 10:11 am

Attendance: Richard Dodds, Jackie Middleton, Martie Kyde, Julia Somers, Robert McEwan, Sarah Bursky, Judith Henckel, Dana EPAC, Katherine Fullerton, Sara Sayed, Stephen Freeman, Anna Solberg, Louise Feder, Ingrid Gray, David Chait, and Olivia Wilson.

1. Welcome - Richard Dodds, Chairman – Introductions and Land Acknowledgement- (5 min)

- We would like to acknowledge that our work as a Council is on the traditional lands and home of the Lenape People, Lenapehokink, and we pay our respects to those who have stewarded this land from time immemorial and are still doing so today. We commit to improving this relationship, supporting Lenape recognition in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and working together on programs and projects to benefit the Delaware River.
- Approval of December 2022 Minutes (attached)
 - Robert made a motion, Martie second, unanimously approved.
- Introducing our new fellow, Olivia - Sarah

2. Wild & Scenic Business – Richard Dodds, Chairman (15 Minutes Including Q&A)

- Budget 2023-2024 Planning and Overview, River partners solicitation
 - Presented Steering Committee's budget proposal.
 - Two proposals to use up last year's funds: pond mussel study and restoration along the river by Primrose Creek. Remaining \$45K: \$20K for mini-grant. \$15k left. Invited three organizations that have larger/ongoing projects to apply for a two-year grant. \$7,500 for each organization, each year. The invited organizations have successfully completed mini-grants and applied for consecutive years.
 - Motion to approve Martie, second Sara, unanimously approved.
 - Ingrid: Pohatcong approved W&S designation for Musconetcong.

3. Council Projects – 20 min

- **Next Steps on River Use Planning Process with RTCA Program at NPS – Cindy Kunnas (10 minutes)**
 - Access Managers Forum-March 29th at 2 pm. River law enforcement and access managers such as townships, state parks, NJDEP, etc. were invited to attend. Lauren Ingram and John Cecil will be attending and giving closing remarks.
 - Sarah-Steps to asking for renewing support from RTCA. Need to present the next phase of work on visitor use issues. Stephen-if the forum attendees commit to ongoing work, that would be the plan. Could also include outfitters in the next step. Sarah will ask how long our request can be such as 1-2 or 3 years.
- **Delaware River Tributaries and new designations presentation– Robert McEwan**

4. Mini-Grant Projects – Cindy (5 minutes)

- Bucks County Audubon completed their project-Cindy visited the trail bridge
- Tincum started their project

5. Ongoing Matters (25 Minutes)



- Rockfall Mitigation Projects/NJDOT - Tara Mezzanotte
- Judy-611 closed due to rockfall, and everyone has been using I-80 and there was an accident.
 - Tara-we are not against rockfall mitigation, we are against how the projects are proposed which did not follow regulations, or laws, no EIS was done, and are over-engineered.
 - Devil's Tea Table-Stephen-Thank you Louise Feder for drafting a resolution, New Hope passed. 10 municipalities, from Frenchtown to W. Amwell and Tinicum to New Hope. Every town that would be affected passed a resolution. Plan to take the townships to lobby congress.
 - Richard attended the January meeting in Kingwood with NJDOT, the local official briefing. NJDOT promised to enter a working group for alternative solutions. So far it is behind schedule.
 - Tara-Warren County Congressman Kean in a site visit, tied in that this is a district-wide issue. 4 projects along the river. 3 federally recognized tribes are involved with NEPA.
- Springfield Quarry- No update
- Warehouse projects -
 - Jaindel, White Township-Tara-Northampton considering not reoffering a tax break and which will reconfigure the buildings. More warehousing than manufacturing. A high cube warehouse is possible.
 - Julia-Developer has a problem with how to access the site. Don't know how they will address the stormwater. It's karst topography with sinkholes. Infiltrate no stormwater on site because of the sinkhole issue. Covering much of the property with impervious surfaces. Need help paying for credentialed witnesses. Community presentation in May. Warehouses planned are over 800k sq ft and the over 2 mill sq ft, almost 2 miles long.
 - River Pointe Logistics, Mount Bethel-Tara-whole site 8 mill sq ft over 800 acres. Shared a viewshed photo. The buffer is preliminarily planned to remain. 30 ft tall building not above the tree line.
 - Judy-Developer has three different LLCs. Powerplant section-165 deemed clean, the other half brownfields. The whole 1k acres do not need tax abatement. It was never logged and it was farmed or was a forest. Appealing DEP stormwater permit for Demi Road building. Residents along Potomac Street. Developer plans to put in own wastewater treatment plan. Wants the township to make a municipal authority. Drip irrigation into the creek across the road.
 - Sarah-requested visual resource staff to do a scenic inventory. NPS will send a staff of three at end of the summer for 3 weeks (Aug 14 or 21 or Sep 11 or 18). Need volunteers to assist.
- Paunacussing restoration work, ongoing –No update

6. 2023 Dates:

- 2023 LDWS Council Meeting: Thursdays at 10:00 AM: June 22, September 28, and December 28

Attachments/Handouts

- December Minutes
- March Agenda



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