

QUITTAPAHILLA WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
MEETING MINUTES
ANNVILLE TOWN HALL
October 18, 2016

Present: Mike Schroeder, Karen Feather, Alicia Norris, Alan Wood, Kent Crawford, Joe Connor, Sean Droms, Bill Beck, Kelly Cottingham

The meeting began at 7:00 PM.

1. Mike reported on the closeout meeting for the Annville Stream Restoration Project on Monday, Oct. 3 from 12 noon to 1 p.m, attended by Rocky Powell (Clear Creeks Consulting, LLP), Ned Gibble (Lebanon Valley Conservancy), Justin Kauffman (Aquatic Resources Restoration Co.), Jineen Boyle (PA-DEP), and Mike Schroeder. The project is 99% completed.
2. Mike provided an update on the projected Quittapahilla Restoration Project in Cleona. He noted that 16 of the 21 landowners along the creek have signed the initial permission forms from PA-DEP, and efforts are ongoing to secure the permissions of the remaining property owners (see the Excel spreadsheet accompanying these minutes). Joe Connor volunteered to help in this effort. Mike further reported that Ned Gibble of the Lebanon Valley Conservancy has indicated that the LVC has agreed to administer the grant, should it be approved.
3. Kent provided an update on the projected Lower Snitz Creek proposal submitted to the PA Fish & Boat Commission by the Doc Fritchey Chapter of Trout Unlimited (DCTU) in collaboration with Rocky Powell (Clear Creeks Consulting) and Lee Irwin (Aquatic Resources Restoration Co.) and in partnership with the Watershed Association. The proposal identifies 1,200 linear feet of stream to be restored, with its lower terminus at the Dairy Road bridge, with an approximate estimated budget of \$60,000. The work would stabilize the banks; provide livestock crossings; remove invasive species; erect fencing; narrow the channel; increase the stream velocity; and include installation of riparian buffers using saplings to be provided by the Donegal Chapter of Trout Unlimited.
4. Kent provided an update on a second grant proposal to the PA Fish & Boat Commission for a scientific study of dissolved oxygen and temperature at several points along Quittapahilla Creek. This proposal was submitted by Associate Professor of Biology Becky Urban of Lebanon Valley College. The grantee will be Lebanon Valley College, with DFTU serving as a partner in the proposal. The estimated budget is a little under \$40,000, which includes stipends for LVC students and Prof. Urban, equipment, and LVC administrative overhead.
5. Alan reported on the Conservation Innovation Grants being offered by the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service, and encouraged the Association to apply. To quote from the call for proposals, "Through USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the department will invest up to \$25 million for projects that spark the development and adoption of innovative conservation technologies and approaches in areas like conservation finance, data analytics, and precision conservation to benefit producers on private agricultural and forest lands."
6. Alan also reported on a landowner along Quittapahilla Creek near the Pennsy Supply quarry who intends to reconstruct some 800 feet of stream and streambank on his own, in

consultation with Alan and others with expertise in stream reconstruction. The biggest problems are a widening stream, intensifying erosion, and high levels of dissolved limestone and sediment from the Pennsy quarry. The Donegal Chapter of Trout Unlimited is also partnering in the project, supplying saplings to be planted along the reconstructed portion. Alan further noted that PennDot is required to have mitigation offsets, and will consult with an official at PennDot on this pending project. He further indicated that he will keep Kent Crawford, Joe Connor, and Russ Collins apprised of progress on the project.

7. Kent indicated that he intends to speak with Robin Getz, Director of Public Works in the City of Lebanon, regarding a project to divert stormwater into retention ponds and wetlands just downstream of the Hazel Dyke.
8. Karen reported that the Lebanon County Clean Water Alliance has received another Technical Assistance Grant from the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation, and provided a brief update on the scope and purpose of the grant.
9. Joe reported on Dr. Marianne Bartley's Greater Lebanon Community Project initiative, which includes a children's book on the watershed (including a fish that talks about trash in the creek).
10. Kent provided an update on a proposal submitted by the Doc Fritchey Chapter of Trout Unlimited, endorsed by the Watershed Association, to the PA Fish & Boat Commission for an electro-fishing survey of Quittapahilla Creek, to determine the extent to which trout are now reproducing in the creek.
11. Karen provided an update on the Association's nomination of Randy Leisure to the Lebanon County Conservation District, indicating that all nominations for the open position must include two nominees. Karen asked Randy's advice, and he suggested asking Brent Kaylor if he were interested in the position. Karen suggested that the Watershed Association nominate Brent Kaylor along with Randy Leisure, and consensus was reached that this was a good idea.
12. Alan reported that the Lebanon Valley Conservancy is looking for two new Board members.
13. Mike reported that all the QWA t-shirts have been sold and that the Association has now received a total of \$290 from t-shirt sales. This leaves a net profit of \$6 (the t-shirts cost \$284).
14. Mike again asked if anyone were interested in assuming the position of Treasurer of the Association, in light of Ann Lasky's express desire to step down from this position. No volunteers were immediately forthcoming.
15. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Schroeder, Secretary Pro Tem