

QUITTAPAHILLA WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
Meeting Minutes
Annville Town Hall
March 22, 2018

Present: Mike Schroeder, Karen Feather, Dave Lasky, Ann Lasky, Alicia Norris, Kent Crawford, Russ Collins, Sean Droms, Kelly Cottingham, Elliott Fackler, Bryan Hoffman, Bill Wall

The meeting began at 7:00 p.m.

1. The assembled members extended a warm welcome to William “Bill” Wall, a volunteer for the Water Quality Volunteer Coalition in Lancaster County and an Environmental Specialist working for Steckbeck Engineering, who now resides in Annville and is interested in the Association’s ongoing work to improve the water quality across the watershed.
2. The Minutes of the meeting of the Feb. 20 were approved by consensus.
3. Mike reported on the meeting of the Lebanon County Stormwater Consortium on Tues. March 20, comprised of six Lebanon County municipalities that have combined forces to address their MS4 obligations imposed by the EPA and the PA-DEP (Annville Township, the City of Lebanon, Cleona Borough, North Cornwall Township, North Lebanon Township, and South Lebanon Township; Bryan Hoffman is the representative of the Cleona Borough Authority). The Consortium expects to raise \$5 million over the next five years, the bulk of which will go toward streambank restoration work along the Quittapahilla mainstem. Mike reported that the representatives of the Consortium at the meeting seemed pleased that the Association looks forward to partnering with the Consortium in the effort to improve the water quality in the watershed. He further summarized the gist of the Consortium’s 732-page Joint Pollutant Reduction Plan, and noted that the Plan is posted and synopsised on the QWA website (under “[Studies & Documents](#)”). He noted that the Consortium’s web presence is via the Lebanon County Housing & Redevelopment Authorities, at www.lebanoncountyredevelopment.com/.
4. Bryan noted that four Lebanon County municipalities obliged to comply with PA-DEP’s MS4 pollution reduction mandates opted not to join the Consortium: Cornwall Borough, South Annville Township, North Londonderry Township, and South Londonderry Township. He further noted that Palmyra Borough and West Lebanon Township have applied for waivers from the MS4 requirements; a PA-DEP decision on those applications for waivers is pending.
5. Mike noted that in general, the Association and Rocky Powell’s still-developing Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP), which must be submitted by May 31, will be focusing on those areas not covered in the MS4-related projects being planned by the Consortium and the four non-Consortium municipalities – principally tributaries that traverse agricultural areas, especially Snitz Creek, Beck Creek, Bachman Run, and Killinger Creek. He noted that the principal challenge in the coming years will be to coordinate efforts among the Consortium, the non-Consortium municipalities, Doc Fritchey Trout Unlimited, and the Association in order to avoid duplication of efforts and ensure the most efficient use of scarce resources.
6. Mike reported on Annville Township’s public meeting at Annville-Cleona High School on Tues. March 20 introducing the MS4 Program & Fee, and shared his sense that the program and fee schedule were on the whole well received by the Annville residents in attendance.

7. A discussion was held on the need to map out these various projects as they are conceived, planned, and undertaken in the coming years. Consensus was reached that the Association should constitute a Mapping Committee to be charged with identifying and mapping out in time and space the various projects being planned and implemented across the watershed. The Mapping Committee was constituted, with members Elliott Fackler, Kent Crawford, Russ Collins, Bill Wall, and Kelly Cottingham.
8. It was suggested that the GIS Office in the Lebanon County Planning Department might be the most appropriate body to undertake the mapping that the Association envisions. Consensus was reached that the Consortium and the Association should write a joint letter to the Lebanon County Commissioners asking for some dedicated time from the County GIS Office to undertake this mapping. Bryan indicated that he would assist in the drafting of such a letter and solicit the support of the Consortium at its next meeting on April 17 (the Consortium meets on the third Tuesday of each month).
9. Kent reported that to date he has received two applications for the Association's paid summer internships, and that the Internship Review Committee (Kent, Mike, Sean) consider that both applicants appear to be qualified candidates. It was noted that the Association has at its disposal \$1,500 for two summer interns, and is seeking an additional \$900 to bring the total to \$2,400, for two interns at 120 hours each (at \$10 per hour). Bryan indicated that the Stormwater Consortium might consider contributing the additional \$900, and that he would make inquiries with the Consortium about this possibility.
10. Karen announced that the Lebanon Valley Conservancy will be holding a fundraising event at the Middle Creek Wildlife Refuge Center on Sunday, April 29 from 1:00-4:00 PM featuring wildlife specialist Jack Hubley (\$20 for adults, \$10 for children). Mike added that he will be representing the Association along with the Quittapahilla Creek Garbage Museum at an informational table at the fundraising event.
11. Mike reported that he sent a letter of support to the proposal circulated by County Commissioner Jo Ellen Litz for a grant from the US Geological Survey to undertake testing of private wells on a voluntary basis in light of all the pipeline construction being undertaken across the county (especially the east-west Mariner East 2 pipeline project, and the north-south Atlantic Sunrise pipeline project, both currently under construction).
12. Russ reported that the Snitz Creek Restoration Project spearheaded by Doc Fritchey Trout Unlimited is scheduled to break ground on June 15, and that the reconstruction is expected to take about on month. He further reported that he has been in conversations with Don Umberger of South Annville Township regarding riparian fencing along Upper Bachman Run.
13. Mike noted that construction of the Mariner East 2 project has resulted in systematic violations of the Clean Streams Law as documented in the reports of the Lebanon County Conservation District. He further noted that the grassroots citizens group Lebanon Pipeline Awareness is receiving and archiving all such pipeline construction monitoring reports, and that he is in charge of such pipeline construction monitoring efforts in his capacity as Vice President of LPA and Coordinator of LPA's Pipeline Construction Monitoring Program.

The meeting adjourned at 8:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Schroeder, Secretary Pro Tem