



Lower Delaware Wild & Scenic River Management Council Meeting: Sept. 26, 2019

www.lowerdelawarewildandscenic.org

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM by Steering Committee Chair Richard Dodds at the Kingwood Township, NJ Municipal Building. There were 15 attendees, including two members of the Steering Committee and one staff member.

- Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the June 27, 2019 meeting, previously posted at www.lowerdelawarewildandscenic.org, were accepted.
- PennEast: Mr. Dodds said the status of the PennEast pipeline is in question due to a recent court ruling.
- Tohickon Creek: Staff member Carroll reminded attendees that the proposed PADEP water quality downgrade of the Tohickon Creek in Bucks County, PA is now under review as the public comment period for the proposal closed in July. She said the Lower Delaware Wild & Scenic River Management Council, the National Park Service (NPS), the Tincum Conservancy, the Delaware Riverkeeper Network, Trout Unlimited and approximately 900 other parties filed comments.
- Devil's Tea Table: Mr. Dodds explained that the NJDEP rockfall mitigation project at the Devil's Tea Table rockface for three miles along Route 29 in Kingwood Township will dramatically change views from the Pennsylvania side of the river and has the potential for adverse environmental impacts. He said Kingwood hosted a public information meeting in August about the anticipated construction project. Residents of Kingwood and residents of Tincum Township, PA (Bucks County) were present and asked questions of NJDOT representatives while expressing strong opposition to the project. Residents of Tincum Township, PA were also present at this meeting. They encouraged the Council to be involved in the matter.
- NJ Clean Communities Day: Mr. Dodds announced that the NJ Clean Communities day, hosted in Stockton, Kingwood and Lambertville on September 21, was a success with over 150 volunteers removing trash from the water and along the river banks.

Speakers:

- Lehigh River Stocking Association (LRSA): Association board members Steve Chuckra and Matt MacConnell gave an informative presentation about how probes are used by LRSA to collect valuable water quality data in the Lehigh. The Association took advantage of a 2019 Wild & Scenic mini-grant to repair the probes.
- Trust for Public Land: Owen Franklin, Pennsylvania State Director for the Trust for Public Land, discussed how the Trust works to identify new sources of funding for government entities interested in land preservation projects. He explained the Trust currently has a grant with the William Penn Foundation to provide free consulting services for municipalities along the Delaware River wishing to initiate ballot measures for land protection. The grant program will be available through 2020.

Conclusion:

- Next Meetings & Adjournment: The next meeting is scheduled for Dec. 5 at 6:30 PM. The location and speakers will be announced at a later date. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.