



Management Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 22, 2022 10:00 AM– 11:30 PM via Zoom

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

Call to order: 10:04

Attendance:

Richard Dodds Chair	Katherine Fullerton Hunterdon Co.
Martie Kyde Vice Chair Tinicum Township/Tinicum Conservancy	Jackie Middleton HLT
CC Hof Bridgeton Township	Norm Torkelson Stockton and DRGP
Tara Mezzanotte Warren County/Knowlton Township/Rockfall Mitigation	Judith Henkel Environmental Advocate
Lois Feder Cooks Creek Watershed/Durham Historical Society	Adam DePaul Lenape Nation of PA
David Feder Durham Historical Society	Francis Collins PrimRose Creek Watershed
David Chait Hopewell Township	Stephan Freeman Devil's Tea Table Alliance
Bob Hornby Hunterdon Co.	Kate Martins DCNR
	Fred Stine Delaware Riverkeeper
	Lauren Walters Belvidere Township
	Sarah Bursky NPS

1. Welcome - Richard Dodds, Chairman – Introductions and Land Acknowledgement

- 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 September 2022 Minutes (attached)
- Bob Hornby approve and Jackie second, unanimously approved.

2. Recap of Rising Nation River Journey – Adam DePaul (5 minutes)

- Mini-grant recipient.
- Goes from Hancock to Cape May and takes place every 4 years.
- Treaty of renewed friendship signing along the way to recognize the Lenape and be environmental stewards. 300 individuals and over 100 organizations signed.
- 20-year anniversary.
- Brought in out-of-state elders.
- Next is 2026.
- CC-Bridgeton is working on its comprehensive plan. CC is working to add recognition of the Lenape Nation of PA added to the historical section. Put in a formal request to Bucks Co. Received an email confirming request has been discussed and included in their plan. Recognizing Lenape was the original caretaker of the land.
- News story: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AGDKS4FUXgU>
- How can we support the Lenape into this next year? Richard/Sarah
 - i. February/March will be budgeting for next year.
 - ii. Norm-how long have the Lenape been in the area? Adam-archeologic evidence shows about 12 or 13,000 years.



- iii. Adam urged John Strongwind who checks out Lenape archeological sites, urged to accept our assistance.

3. **PrimRose Creek Mini-grant** – Francis Collins (5 minutes)

- Watershed is Solebury School through limestone quarry through Philips Mill where it empties into the Delaware River.
- Plantings at Solebury School and included the help of students.
- River sections were deforested, causing erosion.
- Quarry causes issues with the water table and made the watershed sensitive.
- Goal to restore a quarter to half an acre.
- Most of the land is private except for the Solebury School.
- Next year is Chapel Road (Primrose Creek) tributary by the quarry.
- The little creek floods at times.

4. **Paunacussing Restoration work** – Sarah (NPS)

- Identified a stretch in Paunacussing for its erosive sites and emergency road fixes.
- NPS offering design help.
- Fall field visit with township leaders and the consultant.

5. **9/11 Trail** (Tara Mezzanotte)

- LDWS partnership with 9/11 National Memorial Trail. Allow Tara to serve as a liaison to the trail committee. The 1,300-mile trail system of trails and roadways. Connects the three national memorials (Shanksville PA, NYC, and Pentagon).
- Designated by congress and President Biden signed it into law.
- <https://www.911trail.org/>
- Motion to recognize Tara as our liaison, Martie moves the motion, and Bob seconds it. Unanimously approved.

6. **Next Steps on River Use Planning Process with RTCA Program at NPS** – Cindy Kunnas (10 minutes)

- Working on furthering the work plan.
- Putting together an outfitter forum before spring
- Tri-county rescue meeting was a bust, canceled and rescheduled for January with no details on date and location.
- Richard and Stephen did an access point tour.
- Map of hazards, access points, and problem areas.

7. **Delaware River Tributaries and new designations** – Robert McEwan (10 minutes)

- List of tributaries that were not in the mix during the original designation.
- Robert started outreach with Tara to get support.
- Internal planning phase (not public outreach)
- Ours can be tacked on in a year or two.
- Judith-Martins Jacoby watershed (Water Gap to Easton) is involved.
- Losi-How designate if in an undesignated Delaware River section.
 - i. Sarah-Connected to the main stem section or is the main stem section



ii. Municipal support at ground level and outstanding resource values (cultural, ecological, etc.)

8. **Mini-Grant Projects** – Cindy (5 minutes)

- 11 applications, mostly in PA.
- Training program, water quality, and plantings.
- Review process in January-review committee of individuals not connected to any of the applications. Use Sarah's ranking process.

9. **Budget Update** – Richard (5 minutes)

- Budgeting 2023-2024 at the very beginning of January
- Share any direction or ideas via email.

10. **Ongoing Matters** (30 Minutes)

- Rockfall Mitigation Projects
 - Tara-Big win-DOT website pushed the start date back another year, 2026 for the Water Gap area. Was 2019. Want environmental impact statement.
 - Stephen Rockfall mitigation is on the council working committee agenda on 1/3 to get a resolution passed. Last township to pass in Bucks and Hunterdon. NJDOT is going to get a meeting with Kingwood Township in January. No meeting details.
 - Katherine-NJDOT wants to focus this meeting on Kingwood stakeholders. Later dates involve more interested parties such as West Amwell. Private meeting not public.
 - Norm-in last week with wetness and freeze/thaw cycles. Drove along 29, and saw no rocks fall into the road and shoulder.
 - Judith-March or April minor rockfall into Riverton Road, took until a week or two ago for it to be addressed. No big fence, done environmentally well. Rocks fall on 611 which closed it for a few months pushing traffic to NJ.
 - Adam-Knowlton and Hardwick mayors came to council, presentation with number of rockfalls and injuries which were next to nothing. Offered to share the presentation.
- Warehouse projects-Tara
 - Judith-encouraged to participate in township meetings and zoning. It all starts with zoning law. It all starts locally.
 - Jaindl, White Township
 - River Pointe Logistics, Upper Mount Bethel
 - Judith-will see Demi Road one from the river because it is so high up. 3 of 5 supervisors are for it and pushing it through. Two across river road going in and can be up to 100 square feet. Demi Road has not started blasting or earth moving because they need PA DEP approval.
 - Highlands council has a noncompetitive grant opportunity for municipalities in NJ to look at their zoning to limit opportunities for warehouse development.
 - Adam- Smithfield Township Meeting 1/11 at 6:00 pm about re-zoning riverside land for commercial: <https://smithfieldtownship.com/events/event/4pmbos/>
 - Projects grandfathered in the past against future river protection guidelines.
 - Issue tabled.
 - North of the LODE



- Tara-Group-National Parks Conservation Association has gone on the record against Rock Fall Mitigation. Came out of the CDRW forum. Penn Future, Highlands Council, Bushkill Creek Watershed against warehouse development. Tara to share more info.
- Golden Pheasant canal bridge, Tincum – Cindy
 - PADOT wants to straighten the road and bridge.
 - Tincum township sent a letter to PADOT encouraging additional truck signage, light at the bridge, keep the bridge one-way and maintained.
 -
- **New Business:**
 - Lauren-Belvidere and Rutgers-Rutgers \$5,000 stormwater runoff mitigation grant. Map shows where a rain garden would be helpful. A few rain gardens are planned. Chris Perez and Hollie Dimuro have been our points of contact. They are phenomenally helpful and enthusiastic. cperez3@envsci.rutgers.edu and hdimuro@envsci.rutgers.edu

Fred-studies on ecological impact, eco-tourism.

11. 2023 Dates:

- 2023 LDWS Council Meeting: Thursdays at 10:00 AM: March 23, June 22, September 28, and December 28-need to look at date.

Attachments/Handouts

- December Agenda
- September Minutes

Adjourn: 11:44

Join Zoom Meeting

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

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