

Lower Delaware Wild & Scenic River Management Council Meeting: Thursday, March 25, 2021 www.lowerdelawarewildandscenic.org

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 PM by Chair, Richard Dodds of Kingwood Township. The meeting was held virtually via Zoom. There were over 40 attendees, including 3 members of the Steering Committee, one Delaware River Greenway Partnership staff member, and a National Park Service (NPS) staff member.

Council Business:

- Introductions: Attendees introduced themselves and their affiliations.
- <u>Approval of Minutes</u>: A <u>motion</u> was made by Norman Torkelson, seconded by CC Hopf, to accept the December 3, 2020 meeting minutes, previously posted at <u>www.lowerdelawarewildandscenic.org</u>. Passed.
- Open 2021 Mini-Grant Program: Attendees were reminded that the Council's grant program was open until March 29. A program summary and grant application could be found at www.lowerdelawarewildandscenic.org until the program closing date. The grant application is open to governmental entities, nonprofits, and schools located in the Lower Delaware corridor.
- <u>2021-2022 Budget Review</u>: Sarah Bursky, National Park Service Liaison (NPS) reviewed the budget as presented to attendees. She discussed the proposed allocations and explained there was an RFP process for partners to submit project funding requests.
- New Five-Year Cooperative Agreement Fiscal Agent: Ms. Bursky announced that the Delaware River Greenway Partnership, after an RFP process, was selected to manage the next five-year cooperative agreement commencing on October 1, 2021.
- Presentation Proposed Rockfall Mitigation Project in Kingwood Township, NJ (Hunterdon County): Stephen Freeman, a homeowner in Tinicum Twp, PA (Bucks County) and a volunteer with the Devil's Tea Table Alliance, presented a PowerPoint about the anticipated NJDOT rockfall mitigation project planned along Route 29. Mr. Freeman discussed the expected environmental and scenic impacts. He presented research based on public information requests including the number of rockfall incidents over the last 19 years and the dollars allocated to the project. Mr. Freeman mentioned a series of recently published investigative news stories about proposed NJ rockfall mitigation. He can be reached by emailing him at DTTART29@gmail.com.
- <u>River Use Capacity Study</u>: Risa Shimoda, consultant to the Lower Delaware, presented her findings to date by reviewing an interim <u>report</u>. She went into great detail about the research, answered questions, and facilitated a discussion.
- Ongoing Environmental/Land Use Matters Being Tracked: Updates were provided on the following matters:
 Carversville Inn (Solebury, PA) Letter Submitted (Near Paunacussing Creek), Warehouse Development (Upper Mt Bethel Twp, PA), Inquiry on Quarry Operation and Proximity to River (Pohatcong Twp, Warren County, NJ), and Headquarters Bridge (Tinicum Twp, PA) PennDOT Proposal Anticipated NPS Section 7 Letter & Correspondence Received. Questions and comments were shared by the meeting participants. The following matters were presented for information only: PennEast Before U.S. Supreme Court, Quarry Application (Springfield Twp., PA) Letter Submission, Warehouse Development Proposal (White Township, NJ), and Nockamixon Dam Water Supply Analysis & Tohickon Creek.
- New Business/Municipal Announcements: It was announced that Jeff Tittel of the NJ Chapter of the Sierra Club
 was retiring. Several other announcements were shared regarding municipal and nonprofit activities in the
 corridor.

Conclusion:

• Next Meetings & Adjournment: The next virtual meeting is planned for June 24, 2021. With no new business, meeting adjourned at 3:37 PM.