



Management Council Meeting Minutes (unapproved)

Thursday, July 20, 2023 10:00 AM– 11:30 PM via Zoom

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

Richard Dodds-Chair LDWS
Sarah Bursky-NPS
Martie Kyde-Vice Chair LDWS
Alison Sommers-Sayre-ED DRGP
Cindy Kunnas-Coordinator DRGP
James Engel-Tinicum Conservancy
Tara Mezzanotte-Knowlton Township/Warren
County liaison
Emily Dunn-HLT
David Chait-Hopewell Township
CC Hopf-Bridgeton Township Planning
Commission
Olivia Wilson-NPS
Bob Hornby Hunterdon County
Fred Stine-Delaware Riverkeeper

Matt Babbitt-HC
Anna Solberg-Conservation Voters of PA
Ingrid Gray-Pohatcong Township and Warren
County Scenic Byway
Lois Oleksa-Cooks Creek Watershed and
Durham Historical Association
Judith Henckel-Upper Mount Bethel resident
Adam DePaul-Lenape Nation of PA
Faith Zerbe-Delaware Riverkeeper
Alan Hunt-Musconetcong Watershed Assoc. &
Musconetcong W&S
Katherine Fullerton-Hunterdon County
Carolyn Nicklen-Hunterdon Hiking Club
Robert McEwan-Solebury Township

Call to order 10:05 am

1. Welcome - Richard Dodds, Chairman – Introductions and Land Acknowledgement- (5 min)

- 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 March 2023 Minutes (attached)
 - Bob motioned to approve, Tara second, unanimously approved.

2. Introductions

- Alison Sommers-Sayre, new DRGP Executive Director
- New participants

3. Great Waters -- Dr. Alan Hunt, Director, Policy & Grants at Musconetcong Watershed Association (20 min)

- <https://www.greatwatersnj.org/>

4. Wild & Scenic Business – Richard Dodds, Chairman (5 min Including Q&A)

5. Council Projects – 20 min

- **Next Steps on River Use**– Cindy Kunnas (5 min)
 - 8/3, 1 pm River Access Manager Mid-Summer check-in meeting. Discuss color coded signs and how the summer is going as far as crowds.



- Richard-the goal is to bring NJ and PA together
- Hol H. Clark Park Ramp-Robert, Supervisors passed a development waiver, first phase for emergency services, not recreational users. The county has a budget.

6. Delaware River Tributaries and new designations presentation– Robert McEwan and Tara Mezzanotte (10 min)

- Tara-Pohatcong Township is supporting their Pohatcong tributary. In August, township plans to pass a resolution for being a LDWS municipality. ORV gristmill along Phoatcong tributary.
- Tara-Paulinskill Land Conservancy of NJ, Paulinskill Community NJ Highlands Coalition, NJ Sierra Club-local chapter, Highlands involved. Presented to Conservation Committee for the NJ Sierra Club, they support the designation study. NJ Sierra club approval allows local Sierra groups to become involved with tributary study. Appalachian Mountain Club-received letter of support. Going in front municipal EACs and Warren County.
- Robert-Thanked partners for support.
- Robert-Lambertville, Stockton, Riegelsville to approve section of river.
- Met with Hopewell, Delaware Township, and Bridgeton Supervisors. Endorsements from Natural Lands, Canal 21, FODC, and Bucks Audubon plus residents.
- Lois-Durham Township agreement with Cooks Creek Watershed Association to work together on Cooks Creek erosion grant. Waiting to hear back on grant approval. Township has not joined LDWS even though numerous W&S meetings and presentations over the years.
- Adam-mentioned the Lenape Nation of PA monthly newsletter, invited MC member to send anything publicizing along such as the tributary study.
- Alan-NJ Commission on American Indian Affairs can help promote as well.

7. Mini-Grant Projects – Cindy (10 min)

- Received all interim reports.

8. Ongoing Matters (25 min)

- Rockfall Mitigation Projects/NJDOT - Tara Mezzanotte
 - Richard another meeting today with NJDOT for Devil's Tea Table and Byram. Called Local Design Group meeting, many participants had questions about the basic science. At end of meeting, NJDOT said they are moving forward regardless.
 - Richard-Rt 78 rockfall mitigation mostly closed the road after blasting. Known area for issues with water. Why does NJDOT not focus on that area?
 - Tara-Rt 46 landslide closed road, DEP owned land. Tara- State knows there is an issue with old RR tunnel. Not in rockfall mitigation area.
 - Tara-NJDOT claiming the need to replace entire retaining wall (touches the river) in S-curve. Four panels are critical. Signed contract to replace before any studies. Same project area in rockfall mitigation project. Together \$204 million. Originally \$1.4 in 2011.
- Springfield Quarry- [Coalition](#) is appealing the township's decision to approve (with conditions)
 - No update on appeal
 - Faith-Delaware Riverkeeper is tracking as well.
- Warehouse projects
 - Judy-River Point Logistics, Mt. Bethel, PA-Judith-Primary 2 candidates won that have an interest in sustainability. Developer working to get approvals before election. Challenging



Demi Road water treatment/sewer. I-3 subdivision was deemed cleaned. Powerplant area was deemed hazardous, and they can begin work. Trees supposedly hide a 40 ft or 100 ft watershed from river. The developer wants to change 3 of the buildings on 800 acres into one (13 in total originally proposed). Upcoming meeting for drip irrigation, township create wastewater treatment, and drop water into another watershed.

- Jaindl, White Township, NJ
 - Fred-Riverkeeper trying to get it thrown out without prejudice. County requires a new access point to property. Township solicitor wrote to Jaindl, if they don't come to the August meeting with substantive presentation, the township will vote for the denial. White Township changed the zoning, cannot resubmit same application. Will result likely in lawsuit.
- Anna shared in chat this link for a PA planning resource https://www.pennfuture.org/Files/Publications/PennFuture_Ordinance_Manual_7.pdf
- Paunacussing restoration work, ongoing –No update
- New business
 - Adam-Lenape Nation of PA, PA only state in homeland that has not given state recognition. Posted petition and letter writing campaign on website Lenape Nation of PA: <https://www.lenape-nation.org/>

9. 2023 Dates:

- 2023 LDWS Council Meeting: Thursdays at 10:00 AM: September 28 and December 28

Attachments/Handouts

- March Minutes
- July Agenda

Adjourn at 11:32 am.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84321098802?pwd=RDExdjBucTE4cjdkMVZDdjhScU91Zz09>

Meeting ID: 843 2109 8802

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