



Management Council Meeting Minutes UNAPPROVED

Thursday, June 27, 2024 10:00 AM– 11:30 PM via Zoom

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

Attendance:

Eric Anderson	James Engel	Jackie Middleton
Michele Becci	Stephen Freeman	Shannon Norbert
Mark Baum Baicker	Ingrid Grey	Risa Shimoda
Dana Caracciolo	Judith Henckel	Julia Somers
Adam DePaul	CC Hopf	Michelle St. Andre
Richard Dodds (Chair)	Tara Mezzanotte	Steph Vannais

Staff: Alison Sommers-Sayre and Cindy Kunnas

Call to order 10:03 AM

1. (10 min) 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 March 2024 Minutes (attached)
 - CC Hopf made a motion to approve, second Judith Henckel, unanimously approved.
- September meeting is during CDRW Forum which could be a conflict; rescheduling is suggested.
 - Section 7 Workshop planned for the meeting
 - DoodlePoll-2 Thursdays before and one after, and earlier in the same week.

2. (10 min) Council Projects

- **Logo!** – Alison
 - Shared logo that was developed by the Logo Committee and approved by the SC.
 - Richard thanked everyone who served on the Logo Committee.
 - Brainstorm applications:
 1. Use in print, interpretive and street signs, website, and social media.
 - A number of members had comments:

1. Julia suggested adding more “wildness” such as another creature.
2. Judy likes the movement of the eagle and that it is in the process of landing. Also, she likes the movement of the water.
3. Tony asked if it would be the actual colors; feels they are too muted and would like different colors and there is no white.
4. Alison explained how the colors originated (PA and NJ state colors) and the NPS and WS logos the LDWS logo will appear with. The picture conjures up a river town which is unique to LDWS.
5. Steve-the bridge appears the most prominent in the logo and asked why the river isn’t as prominent.
6. In comments Risa stated, “I think the logo does a great job showing two (both) sides of the river, the bridge, the familiar building designs, and moving water (not flat, not whitewater), the colors: it feels like a romantic summer afternoon. It is complicated as a 'logo' and might not suite a teeny-tiny space. Congratulations.”
7. In comments Dana stated, “Can we scoot the eagle over? It cuts off the top of the "C" and almost makes it look like an "L" Or add more hook to the "C".”
8. Judy-the bridge seems to be too big compared to everything else.
9. Michelle-a lot of eyes focusing on this logo, when you think about logos on shirts and posters, are you focused on detail? You focus on “Lower Delaware Wild & Scenic” and don’t worry as much about detail versus the message.
10. Risa in comments, “The logo cannot be used too much! Where it is on its own: it would be helpful, for a period of time, to explain what the LDWSR actually is: one of 18 PWSRs, in partnership with the NPS.”
11. Alison was asked if it is the final version and said that as the process of development and review was long and had many voices, this would be the final version unless the committee felt it missed the mark. Committee members did not feel it missed the mark - discussion of how individuals have specific preferences but what was important is that the image evoked the LDWS.

- **River Use Project – Alison**

- Successful forum. Some follow-up:
 1. River gauge discussion-submitted suggestions to USGS.
 2. Reaching out to DRJTBC to explore adding bridge name signs or other location related signs to bridges to be seen from the water.
- Summer work will include individual interviews and topic specific discussions. Suggestions for individuals who should be interviewed requested.
- Fall forum planned - Julia noted the NWNJ River Conference is on Oct 18th
- There will be a written plan developed in the Fall.

3. (10 min) Next Phase of Expansion Study

- “Segments & Tributary Expansion” - Richard
 - Criteria is being reviewed and finalized by SC, will inform project next steps and documentation.
- Next step is engaging in management planning and plan documentation - identifying individuals for the Study Committee for a set of mainly virtual meetings, beginning in July
 - Judy and CC expressed interest in being part of committee
 - Adam said he may be able to be part of it depending on details of timing
 - Julia suggested including someone from Highlands Coalition

4. **(5 min) Mini-Grant Project Update** – Cindy

- Most interim reports are in. Holland Township's project (O'sakame Preserve) is done and Cindy toured it last week. Jackie-HLT helped preserve the O'sakame Preserve and partnered with Holland Township, using LDWS funds to fund staff time that went to preserving the land.

5. **(5 min) Bucks County Water Advisory** – Alison joined the BC Water Advisory

6. **(25 min) Ongoing Matters - Richard and all**

- Warehouses
 - Upper Mt. Bethel River Pointe Logistics- [lawsuit](#) seeking to halt Upper Mount Bethel Township officials' plan to dissolve a sewer authority. Suit filed against the five-member township supervisor board and engineer.
 1. Tara and Judy-A lot going on behind the scenes. Plans have been tabled until November. The 6th zoning board meeting, opposing the variance. The wastewater plant would be at the highest point then piped under the road by a neighborhood to a knoll by protected wetlands. It would add 16 inches of rain a year, twice the amount usually naturally received.
 2. Julia-Oldwick in Tewkesbury has a spray system.
 - a. She reminded the group, it took 5 years and lawsuits for the White Township Jaendl development to be canceled and the property purchased by NJ.
 3. Moiner warehouse in the upper river, 15 days as of the 20th to write letters by July 3 or 4. Moyer Warehouse Letters:
<https://delawareriverkeeper.org/stop-the-moyer-warehouse-attend-the-june-20th-public-hearing/>
 - a. Richard-we should draft a letter. Adam-it's in the Poconos, close to Lehighton area.
 4. CC-Hopewell township warehouse. Richard to look into.
- Paunnacussing gas line and Aqueduct
 - The Lumberville Aqueduct is in the process. NPS (Wild and Scenic, and National Historic Landmark team) had to be consulted about some changes in design. But all of the approvals have been made and that one is well underway.
 - High Falls is in the design stages. Met onsite with the two NPS teams, the PA State Historic Preservation team (SHPO), FEMA, and the PA DCNR because the removal of the old, failed, existing culvert structure officially makes it an 'adverse impact' in terms of historical context. (This is not under Wild and Scenic, but under the Nat'l Historic Landmark and FEMA auspices). So to manage the 'adverse impact' finding, alternatives need to be considered, the team needs to agree on the best alternative, and then there need to be accommodations for documenting the history, etc.
- Rockfall mitigation – Stephen, Richard, Tara
 - Devil's Tea Table, Kingwood- July meeting to be scheduled
 1. Change the safety bar-NPS to meet with FHWA to see if this can be required by FHWA as a condition of federal funding.
 2. Options such as just monitoring the road, changing the speed limit on the road and expanding the ditch were written off for reasons that there is nowhere to station a police car, the expanded ditch does solve the problem, and just monitoring is not considered an option.

3. NJDOT offered up a lower impact option that they still need to investigate involving moving the road, but they stated that this might have other impacts on the canal towpath and other natural resources (trees). This is more impactful to other resources because they are refusing to lower the 95% criteria. If they lower to 90%, it will likely be less impactful on other resources.
 4. NJDOT promised to get back to us in July with design solutions.
 5. Tinicum passed a new resolution opposing the project in April. Copy is on the DTT Alliance [website](#) and facebook page. It is a strong resolution.
- o Rt 29 Workgroup - June 13 meeting
 1. They admit they have not been tracking actual rock falls, but basing the need for the project on models. When pressed, one NJDOT team member listed 4 times over the past 25 years and offered to share reports with the group.
 2. Steven-the hazard scores are low and at a level that wouldn't normally require mitigation except for one narrow section.
 - o I-80 DWG-Tara- Suggested we start the NJDOT meetings asking what is the stated purpose and need for the project. Canned purpose and need is to reduce the frequency of rockfall events. Why do they need 95% rate? Get the question in writing. In I-80 the language was changed to eliminate. Ask for the concept development report.
 1. National Historic Preservation Section 106 requires for potential cultural impact.
- The [Landing in New Hope](#)- Landmark withdrew plans from New Hope. Michele-developer can come back but will have to start the process over. There is an NH resident opposition group that recently formed.
 - [Canal bridge](#) by Golden Pheasant Inn will keep curves.
 - Washington [Crossing Bridge](#) replacement. Opposition building (Upper Makefield & Wrightstown Townships). UMT is working to get the bridge placed on the National Register of Historic Places as well as some surrounding buildings/houses. The Bridge [Commission](#) hired consultants to conduct a multi-year examination and an evaluation of alternatives, including replacement of the bridge.
 - o Julia suggested putting a flier in Titusville to advise them on what is proposed. Many residents work in Trenton.
 - New business – Other issues?
 - o James- Tinicum Conservancy-working on trails at the Bridgeton Nature [Preserve](#) with the township and Appalachian Mountain Club. Volunteer opportunities starting September. The location is close to Ringing Rocks and they are hoping to create a link. Newsletter will include volunteer info. The 75 acre property at the headwaters of Beaver Run, a Tinicum Creek tributary. Eric Anderson will take James' place at the MC meetings.
 - o Adam
 1. Frenchtown Bridge lighting, petition in Lenape of PA newsletter, https://www.change.org/p/keep-our-bridge-beautiful?recruiter=1136825180&recruited_by_id=5bec2d30-d29b-11ea-ac16-191615248c54&utm_source=share_petition&utm_campaign=share_petition&utm_term=share_for_starters_page&utm_medium=copylink&utm_content=cl_sharecopy_490103189_en-US%3A8
 2. Historic Lenape Conference July 27, Northampton Community College. One of the panel topics is environmental protection.
 3. Wrapping up a book chapter on the Delaware River, mention specific collaborations including that they worked with LDWS to protect the river.

NOTICES

ISSUES being tracked/Quick updates:

- a. [Headquarters Rd Bridge](#) - Private funding/town ownership moving into permitting
- b. I95 Bridge Repair/reconstruction - Supplemental EIS process starting, NPS included
- c. Route 46 Bridge DWG Amtrak - NPS unable to review due to limitations of study protections from 2000
- d. Nockamixon Dam water release evaluation (no update)
- e. Hal Clark boat launch (no update)
- f. [H & K's \(Center Valley Materials\) quarry application](#) Springfield Township (no update)

2024 Dates:

- Thursdays 10 A.M.: September 26 (reschedule due to CDRW), and December (TBD)

Attachments/Handouts

- March Minutes
- June Agenda

Adjourn 11:39 AM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83669050457?pwd=a0lPeDlnb0FpdlhNcXRqMmZraTkWUT09>

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