



Management Council Meeting Unapproved Minutes

Thursday, September 12 10:00 AM– 11:30 PM via Zoom

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

Attendance:

Jeff Ackerman-U. Mt. Bethel
Eric Anderson-Tinicum Conserv.
Matt Babbitt-HC
Sarah Bursky-NPS
Dana Caracciolo-EPAC
Richard Dodds, Chair
Emily Dunn-HLT
Stephen Freeman-DTTA
Ingrid Gray-Pohatcong Twp., County Scenic
Byway Commiss.
Judith Henckel-UMT, Martins Jacoby Watershed
Assoc.

Bob Hornby-Hunterdon Co.
CC Hopf-Bridgetown Twp.
Robert McEwan
Tara Mezzanotte-Knowlton township, N.
Expansion Study
Lois Oleska-Durham Hist. Soc., Cooks Creek
WA
Chad Pindar-DRBC
Michelle Purcell-Stockton
Tony Rizzello-Holland
Kate Schmidt-DRBC
Erik Silldorff-DRN

Staff: Alison Sommers-Sayre, ED, DRGP and Cindy Kunnas, Project's Cord., DRGP

Called 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, Lēnapehòkink, 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 June 2024 Minutes (attached)
 - Bob made a motion, CC second. Unanimously approved.
- Schedule December meeting (4th Thursday falls on December 26)
 - DoodlePoll Thursdays at 10

2. (10 min) Sojourn recap - Kate Schmidt

- Kate shared a presentation covering the 2024 Delaware River Sojourn. Next year's dates will be announced by October.

3. (10 min) Next Phase of Expansion Study

- “Segments & Tributary Expansion” - Robert McEwan, Committee Chair
- Project update
- Adding members to the expansion team. Call for volunteers. Meets monthly through March 2025.
- Created a criteria list to finetune the designation.
- Met with DRBC for endorsement. 30+ creeks and 8 or 9 segments, each has to go through local government and up for support.
- Bucks County Commissioners approved the creeks proposed in their area.
- All creeks go through private property. EAC’s and townships have asked about this and rights of property owners. It is locally handled by zoning.

4. (5 min) Mini-Grant Project Update – Erik Silldorff

- Delaware Riverkeeper Network project.
- Search for Podostemum Ceratophyllum missing in Lower Delaware River for 150 years. Successfully locating the plant is an indication of improved water quality.

5. (30 min) Section 7 Workshop - Sarah

- NPS liaison Sarah Bursky gave an overview that will be a refresher for some, and an intro for others, of NPS’ regulatory authority under the Act.
- Does not prevent development in towns, acts as a guide to how to build on the river.
- Protecting scenic byways can be hard.

6. (10 min) Council Projects – Alison S.

- **Logo!** – Logo rollout has begun
 - Working on a brand guide such as signage for mini-grant projects.
- **River Use Project**
 - Summer Progress Update
 - Looking to make a cooperative action plan for sustainable recreating in our corridor while protecting natural resources.
 - Awareness/Ambassadorial role
 - Next step is recommendations and an action plan - be a part.

7. (15 min) Ongoing Matters - Richard and all

- Rockfall mitigation – Stephen, Richard, Tara
 - Tara-5 federally funded projects in DWG, retaining wall replacement on both 80 and 611 and rockfall mitigation on both 80 and 611.
 - Devil’s Tea Table- Stephen-Delayed 5th working group meeting to early November, was supposed to be September. Hopefully reach a resolution.
 - Richard-Rt. 29 Lambertville area had two meetings. Rockfall rating scores are lower and incidents are extremely low.

8. Washington [Crossing Bridge](#) replacement.

- Beginning of coordination with PA DCNR, Washington Crossing Historic Park, and NPS.
- Opposition building (Upper Makefield & Wrightstown Townships). UMT is working to get the bridge and surrounding buildings 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. New business – Other issues?

9. Nockamixon Release Update-No update

10. What issues are emerging?

- In Durham, on Rodges Run is a Landmark Hospitality venue [Durham Springs](#).
 - Must put in a sewage treatment plant.
 - 44 cabins proposed.
- Dana-Eastern PA Alliance of Climbers shared updates on improvement in High Rocks in the chat <https://epaclimbers.org/cause/high-rocks-improvement-project/>

11. (5 min) Available Resources - Alison

- PWSR workshop for Council members on Best Management and Practices
 - September 26, 9:00 am-11:00 am OR 1:30 pm-3:30 pm. [Registration](#).
- PA DCNR Statewide Annual Virtual Grant Workshop for Recreation and Conservation Projects
 - November 7, 9 AM - noon. [Additional info](#)
- EPA Recreation Economy for Rural Communities Program
 - Applications due: Oct 16, 2024
- Get ready for next round of LDWS MiniGrants
- Assistance with grant applications/ideas - talk to Alison

12. (5 min) Upcoming Events - Cindy

- D&R Canal State Park [Anniversary](#)
 - Sept 14: newly available LDWS swag will be shared
- 7th Annual Delaware River [Cleanup](#)
 - Sept 21: New locations added this year; slots still available
- CDRW [Forum](#), September 26 & 27
 - Kate and Mark Zakutansky is doing a breakfast roundtable on the forum
- Kate-Trenton River Days in the afternoon on September 21
- Jackie-on September 14, HLT Idell Preserve Cleanup

NOTICES

ISSUES being tracked/Quick updates:

- a. Warehouses
 - i. 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
- b. High Falls is in the design stages.
- c. Paunacussing gas line and Aqueduct– Sarah
 - i. The Lumberville Aqueduct is in the removal 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.
- d. [Headquarters Rd Bridge](#) - Private funding/town ownership moving into permitting
- e. Nockamixon Dam water release evaluation
- f. Hal Clark boat launch-breaking ground next year
- g. [H & K's \(Center Valley Materials\) quarry application](#) Springfield Township
- h. The [Landing in New Hope](#)- Landmark withdrew plans from New Hope

Adjourn: Ingrid motion to adjourn, 11:36 AM

2024 Dates:

- Thursdays 10 A.M.: December (TBD)

Attachments/Handouts

- June Minutes
- September Agenda

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83669050457?pwd=a0lPeDIInb0FpdIhNcXRqMmZraTkwUT09>

Meeting ID: 836 6905 0457

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