

QUITTAPAHILLA WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
Meeting Minutes
Annville Town Hall
April 17, 2018

Present: Mike Schroeder, Karen Feather, Dave Lasky, Ann Lasky, Alicia Norris, Kent Crawford, Sean Droms, Kelly Cottingham, Elliott Fackler, Bryan Hoffman, Bill Wall, Stephan Vegoe, Joseph Connor

The meeting began at 7:00 p.m.

1. Mike noted that the minutes of the meeting of March 22 were circulated electronically, and no comments being received were posted on the QWA website.
2. Mike reported that the Summer 2018 Internship Committee (Kent, Sean, and Mike) had reviewed four applicants, conducted four phone interviews, and selected two LVC students as summer 2018 interns: Kyla Waldron and Brittany Weaver. Discussion was held regarding the best way to pay them, considering taxes, etc. Stephan Vegoe on behalf of Doc Fritchey Trout Unlimited agreed to work with Mike to figure out the details.
3. Mike reported on a meeting on Mon. April 16 at 9:00 a.m. at the Lebanon County Conservation District, attended by Mike, Russ Collins, Rocky Powell, Beth Lutz (LCCD), Katie Doster (LCCD), Mike Snyder (NRCS) and Jared Hern (NRCS). The purpose of the meeting was to initiate a dialogue between Rocky, the Association, the LCCD, and NCRS regarding Rocky's still-developing Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) regarding prioritization and funding for stream restoration work in agricultural zones. The NRCS representatives made clear that the NRCS-EQIP program is virtually unfunded this year; other funding sources discussed included the EPA's 319 grants and PA-DEP's Growing Greener.
4. Mike reported on a new funding opportunity brought to the Association's attention by Bill Wall: a \$12.6 million pot of money just established by PA-DEP consisting of the fine imposed on Sunoco Logistics in February 2018 for [permit violations](#) during construction of the Marine East 2 pipeline project. The PA-DEP announcement of the grant opportunity is here: <http://www.ahs.dep.pa.gov/NewsRoomPublic/articleviewer.aspx?id=21442&typeid=1>. Appended to these minutes is a follow-up message from Mike to QWA members on this funding opportunity (see below).
5. Robust discussion was held on how to move forward on this opportunity. It was agreed to form a committee to coordinate efforts to develop a viable grant proposal. Agreeing to serve on the grant proposal committee were Stephan Vegoe, Karen Feather, and Bill Wall, who will work in close coordination with Rocky Powell.
6. Alan reported that Cornwall Borough Manager Steve Danz is looking forward to being contacted by the Association; Mike agreed to follow up.
7. Alan reported that the temporary campsite / village of pipeline workers recently established on Quentin Road on the property of the Quentin Riding Club is making a real mess of things, that much vegetation has been destroyed right next to Snitz Creek, with vehicles parked right next to the creek on a denuded landscape, and that erosion & sedimentation will certainly be significant problems here. It was agreed that this situation should be investigated and remediated asap.
8. Bryan Hoffman reported on the recent work of the Lebanon County Stormwater Consortium (for minutes of the LCSC, see the website of the Lebanon County Housing & Redevelopment

Authorities, at

<http://www.lebanoncountyhousing.com/DocumentLibrary/tabid/1559/Default.aspx>)

9. Mike announced the following upcoming special events:
 - a. Sat. April 21, Quittie Creek Nature Park Annual Day of Caring, 9 a.m. to 12 noon; meet at the foot of the Swingholm Pedestrian Bridge on Bachman Rd. in Annville.
 - b. Sun. April 29, the QWA will be represented, along with the Quittapahilla Creek Garbage Museum, at the Middle Creek Wildlife Refuge Visitors Center, from 1-4 p.m. Mike and Karen will staff the table.
 - c. Sat. June 9, Historic Old Annville Day, 9 AM to 2 PM. Table staff still needed.
10. Alicia reported a total of \$1,814.65 in the Association's bank account. It was agreed to allocate \$900 of this to the summer 2018 internship program, to bring the total to \$2,400 for the two interns (120 hours each, at \$10 per hour = \$1,200 each).
11. Bryan indicated that he would inquire with the Consortium about contributing up to \$900 for the summer interns.

The meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Schroeder, Secretary Pro Tem

APPENDIX

Follow-up email from Mike to QWA members on the new \$12.6 million PA-DEP funding opportunity:

from: Michael Schroeder
to: QWA Members
date: Tue, Apr 17, 2018 at 11:45 PM
subject: **QWA - Sunoco Pipeline \$12.6 Million Penalty Grant**

Fellow Watershed Protectors,

One of the key items discussed at tonight's meeting was a new PA-DEP grant opportunity brought to our attention thanks to Bill Wall: a "grant round for municipalities and other entities to improve water quality along the Mariner East 2 Pipeline":

<http://www.ahs.dep.pa.gov/NewsRoomPublic/articleviewer.aspx?id=21442&typeid=1>

Which takes you to this more detailed page:

<http://www.dep.pa.gov/Citizens/GrantsLoansRebates/Pages/Water-Quality-Projects-Along-ME2-Pipeline.aspx>

Where from further links we see that the Quittapahilla Watershed is NOT listed as among the "Priority Watersheds" – but that it IS listed among the "TMDL Priority Watersheds".

We also see that the following Lebanon County municipalities are eligible to apply for a portion of this \$12.6 million in new grant money:

South Londonderry Twp
South Annville Twp
West Cornwall Twp
Cornwall Borough
South Lebanon Twp
Heidelberg Twp

This is right up our alley and a fantastic opportunity we should jump on. The application period extends from **May 7 to June 20**. We've formed a committee to begin the process of developing grant proposals:

Stephan Vegoe
Karen Feather
Bill Wall
Rocky Powell

And anyone else who wants to help.

I'll be in touch with the six municipal authorities above to help coordinate & keep them in the loop. It strikes me that this grant opportunity might more than compensate for apparently defunct NRCS-EQIP funding. It also strikes me that we should give this grant opportunity a name. I propose "Sunoco Pipeline \$12.6 Million Slap-On-the-Wrist-Cost-of-Doing-Business-for-Shoddy-Construction-on-a-Massively-Destructive-Project Penalty Grant," or for short, the **Sunoco Penalty Grant**.

Thanks for all you do for the watershed, and please be in touch if you want to lend a hand on the grant committee.

Mike