

QUITTAPAHILLA WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
MEETING MINUTES
ANNVILLE TOWN HALL
May 17, 2016

Present: Dave Lasky, Ann Lasky, Mike Schroeder, Kent Crawford, Alan Wood, Karen Feather, Beth Lutz, Joe Connor, and special guest Bryan Hoffman of the Cleona Borough Authority.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

1. Cleona Stream Restoration Project. The project is envisioned as extending from Dairy Road downstream to Mill St – about a mile. After some discussion (and following up on a pre-meeting suggestion by Cleona resident Dan Greenawalt), the suggestion was made to hold an open public meeting in the Cleona Borough Hall for all property owners along the project route, to address any questions or concerns they might have. It was noted that Rocky Powell would need to be at such a meeting, along with Cleona Borough public officials. Mike agreed to coordinate with Kerry Rohland, Cleona Borough Manager, and Rocky Powell, to identify a date that would be most suitable. It was agreed that property owners would be notified by mail, with a mailing that included the following four items:
 - a. Cover letter from the QWA
 - b. Revised “Information Sheet” for landowners
 - c. The “Landowners Access Authorization” form from PA-DEP
 - d. The “Landowner Letter of Commitment” form from PA-DEP
2. Mike reported that the PA-DEP approved \$26,250 in Growing Greener Funds for the proposed Watershed Implementation Plan submitted by Rocky Powell. Consensus was reached that this is excellent news.
3. Mike reported that there has been nothing in the local newspaper or media about this successful grant application, and that a press release announcing the grant would seem in order. Consensus was reached that this was a good idea, and Mike agreed to draft a press release and send it to the Lebanon Valley Conservancy for their consideration, review, and distribution to local news outlets.
4. Mike reported that the requisite study of macroinvertebrates for Phase 1 of the Quittie Creek Nature Park Restoration Project has been completed by a student working under the supervision of Lebanon Valley College Associate Professor of Biology Becky Urban. The study, “Benthic Macroinvertebrates Used as a Biomonitoring Tool To Assess Quittapahilla Creek Water Quality,” has been submitted to Ned Gible of the Lebanon Valley Conservancy, who will forward it to the PA-DEP, and has been posted on the “Studies & Documents” page of the QWA website. The Association expressed its thanks to Prof. Urban for her and her students’ excellent work.
5. Mike offered the reminder that Historic Old Anville Day is coming up on Sat. June 11, and that the QWA will have its traditional spot on West Main St. Alan noted that a hydrologist friend of his will bring to the QWA table at HOAD a model watershed unit that he uses to teach school children about watersheds.
6. Mike reported that the t-shirts have arrived and brought a sample to show people what they look like; consensus was reached that they are attractive t-shirts. There are 24 shirts, at a cost

of \$284, which means they cost almost \$12 (\$11.83) each, and should be sold at around \$15 each if we hope to do better than break even.

7. Karen reported on recent developments with the Lebanon County Clean Water Alliance (LCCWA): that two experts from the Center for Watershed Protection, Bryan Seipp and Carol Wong, made a series of visits to various sites in Lebanon County, including six municipalities, and are engaged in computer modeling for pollution reduction plans. Karen further reported that the LCCWA will hold its next meeting on Tuesday, May 24 at the Lebanon Valley Agricultural Center to receive a status report of the project being undertaken by the Center for Watershed Protection.
8. Bryan Hoffman of the Cleona Borough Authority noted that Cleona Borough is in the process of developing a stormwater fee schedule for landowners in the borough, to comply with federally-mandated MS4 stormwater management requirements.
9. Kent reported that he has spoken with Khervin Smith of the Palmyra Sportsmen Association (PSA), which owns approximately two miles of Quittapahilla Creek streambank downstream of Clear Spring Road, and that the PSA wants this section of the creek designated as a “special regulation / delayed harvest” fishing area. Khervin Smith has asked the PSA to send a letter to the PA Fish & Boat Commission making the request, and the PSA is currently drafting and revising the letter. Kent further reported that he has no further updates on the electro-fishing survey fundraising efforts.
10. Kent reported that he is revising a brochure titled “Landowner Opportunities for Conservation Actions” for distribution to area farmers and landowners.
11. Alan reported that he has made Annville-Cleona High School officials aware of the erosion problem that drains into Quittie Creek on the south bank across from the property of Paul “Stumpy” Graham, and that these officials indicated that they will follow up on the problem. Alan further reported an even worse erosion area downstream of the Rt. 934 bridge, and indicated that he will follow up on this issue as well.
12. Alan noted that the farmer he had been in touch with to do a demonstration project has indicated that he is not interested in the project if it includes government funds; the farmer indicated that he had been “burned” by the government in the past and is not interested in receiving any government funds for any project on his property. Alan further reported that he has identified another farm in the watershed for a demonstration project and will be following up.
13. Ann reported that this year’s Swatara Sojourn had about 70 people participating, and that the water was quite high this year and not a lot of garbage was removed from the Swattie, though some was, and it was a successful event overall.
14. The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Schroeder, Secretary Pro Tem