

QUITTAPAHILLA WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
Meeting Minutes
Via Zoom in consequence of the global pandemic
February 16, 2021

Present: Michael Schroeder, Karen Feather, Bryan Hoffman, Sophia Rosenberg, Ann Lasky, Dave Lasky, Laurel Etter Longenecker, Joseph Connor

The meeting opened at 7:02 p.m.

- 1. Countywide Action Plan Update.** Laurel (of Land Studies, Inc.) reported that Mary Kate Gallagher, who's unable to attend tonight's meeting, is doing a great job as Coordinator of the the Countywide Action Plan (CAP) for the Lebanon County Conservation District (LCCD). The CAP is now in the implementation phase. A check-in meeting was held today with PA-DEP. It is expected that moving forward there will be biweekly meetings with DEP, meetings that are open to whomever wants to attend. Mary Kate is scheduling the next action team meetings and will be happy to share updates with the Steering Committee.
- 2. Lebanon County Stormwater Consortium Updates.** Bryan reported that the Consortium is moving forward on a number of projects, including stormwater basin retrofits. The Consortium has given considerable attention to the floodplain restoration project planned for the area between the end of the Hazel Dike and the 22nd St. bridge in North Cornwall Township. Bryan noted that the 22nd St. bridge replacement, to be undertaken by PennDot, is proceeding slowly, and might take until 2024 or 2025 to get underway, but that the Consortium is disinclined to wait for the bridge construction to get underway before commencing the floodplain restoration project. The project itself is envisioned as the creation of a wetland by removing large amounts of sediment that have accumulated over the years. The Consortium expects that it will then continue restoring the mainstem downstream to Cleona and Annville. Mike noted that the accumulated sediment in the area is likely filled with plastic trash that has washed down the Hazel Dike during high rain events and become embedded in the soil. Bryan indicated that initial surveys show that such plastic trash is not especially abundant in the accumulated sediment, but that it is a problem.
- 3. National Fish & Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Grants.** Laurel reported that LandStudies is preparing several Small Watershed Grant proposals to NFWF, and suggested that the QWA might wish to submit a proposal if we have a suitable project; the deadline for this funding round is April 22 (see <https://www.nfwf.org/programs/chesapeake-bay-stewardship-fund/small-watershed-grants-2021-request-proposals>).

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Schroeder, Secretary Pro Tem