

QUITTAPAHILLA WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
Meeting Minutes
Via Zoom thanks to Covid
February 15, 2022

Present: Michael Schroeder, Karen Feather, Bryan Hoffman, Russ Collins, Kent Crawford

The meeting opened at 7:03 p.m.

1. **Meeting Minutes.** The minutes of the January 18, 2022 meeting were approved by consensus.
2. **Projects Receiving PA-DEP Growing Greener Funding.** Mike reported that PA-DEP announced on Jan. 31 that two stream restoration projects in Lebanon County were awarded Growing Greener funding in the latest funding round (see the PA-DEP news release, here: https://www.media.pa.gov/Pages/DEP_details.aspx?newsid=1546)
 - A. South Londonderry Township: Killinger Creek Stream Stabilization and Riparian Forest Buffer, \$260,000.
 - B. North Cornwall Township, Cleona Borough: Quittapahilla Creek Floodplain Restoration, \$110,500.

Russ offered to contact the Township Managers in South Londonderry Township and North Cornwall Township to ask them to forward the application materials and project descriptions to Mike for inclusion on the “[Studies & Documents](#)” page of the QWA website.

3. **Lebanon County Stormwater Consortium Update.** Bryan offered a summary of the anticipated timeline for stream restoration of the Quittapahilla mainstem.
 - A. **Segment 1.** The first project will go from the end of the Hazel Dike to the 22nd Street bridge (see http://www.quittiecreek.org/documents/210921_QuittapahillaRestorationUpdate.pdf, housed on the Studies & Documents webpage under Sept. 2021), expected to cost in the neighborhood of \$1.5 million and be completed by the end of 2023.
 - B. **Segment 2.** Continuing downstream, the second project will be from the 22nd Street bridge to Dairy Road in Cleona, which LandStudies is expected to design, and which is expected to cost another \$1.5 million and be undertaken in 2024-2025. Russ indicated that he is not entirely happy with LandStudies’ design for Segment 1 because he does not see it as “fish-friendly.” He will be speaking with the LandStudies engineers to see if they will consider modifying their proposal to make the restoration more fish-friendly.
4. **Spruce Street Bridge Area in Annville.** Russ announced that he will be meeting on-site next week with the property owner; Stephen Vegoe, also of Doc Fritchey Trout Unlimited;

and representatives of the ARM Group (<https://www.armgroup.net/lancaster>) regarding a potential stream restoration project just downstream of the Spruce Street bridge in Annville.

- 5. Large Land Development Projects in the Watershed.** Russ expressed his concerns regarding stormwater management and stream quality in consequence of several ongoing and projected projects in the Quittapahilla watershed, to wit:
 - A. Meadow Lane Farms Housing Development in North Cornwall Township.** Concerns were raised about the stormwater management implications of the large housing development currently being built next to Snitz Creek on the south side of Walnut Street between 22nd and Mill streets in North Cornwall Township, which is expected to include the construction of 270 single-family homes in five phases (see <https://lebtown.com/2021/07/15/major-new-development-coming-to-north-cornwall-twp/>).
 - B. Two more large warehouses planned** for the farmland behind Rutter’s on Rt. 422 & Clear Spring Rd. in South Annville Twp. More information is forthcoming.
- 6. Proposed Solar Farm in North Annville Township.** Mike noted that Enel Corporation’s proposed large solar farm project in North Annville Township is approaching the final stages of township approval and permitting process, and asked permission to write an op-ed in favor of the project on behalf of the Association. Mike noted that the project will not “destroy farmland” as its opponents claim, but will instead preserve farmland while also decreasing the amount of sediment and agricultural pollutants flowing down to the Chesapeake Bay, since that farmland will no longer be farmed but instead populated with solar panel arrays and planted with native plants and pollinators, allowing the soil to regenerate. The motion passed unanimously.
- 7. Monitoring Program.** Kent noted that the monitoring program is currently on hold in light of the upsurge in Covid-19 Omicron variant infections, but is expected to be back on track soon.
- 8. Countywide Action Plan (CAP).** No update. DEP officially announced Lebanon County will receive \$599,796 for implementation of projects in 2022.

The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Schroeder, Secretary Pro Tem