

**QUITTAPAHILLA WATERSHED ASSOCIATION**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Virtually via Zoom**  
**May 16, 2023**

Present: Michael Schroeder, Bob Connell, Kent Crawford, Karen Feather, Bryan Hoffman, Katie Hollen, Kara Lubold

The meeting opened at 7:02 p.m.

- 1. Recap of April 30 Field Tour of Quittie Creek Nature Stream Park Restoration Project.** Mike reported on the Sunday April 30 field tour by directors and senior administrators attending the 78th Annual Northeast Fish & Wildlife Conference in Hershey, co-hosted by the PA Fish & Boat Commission and the PA Game Commission. He reported that the event went well despite the soggy conditions, with some 20 participants and five local partners (Russ Collins for Doc Fritchey Trout Unlimited [DFTU], Kara Lubold and Ned Gible for The Lebanon Valley Conservancy [TLVC], Rocky Powell for Clear Creeks Consulting, and Michael Schroeder for the QWA). He further suggested that the main benefit is likely to be an enhanced relationship between these local partners, on the one hand, and the PA Fish & Boat Commission and other funding agencies, on the other.
- 2. Monitoring Program Updates.** Kent reported that he is targeting the dates of May 24 and 25 for water quality monitoring at all six monitoring stations (for a map, see <http://www.quittiecreek.org/monitoring.html>). Kent noted that we will need to arrange with Biology Professor Becky Urban to pick up our equipment from storage in Neidig-Garber Science Bldg. on the LVC campus; calibrate the sondes; drive to our monitoring sites; collect our water samples following rigorous DEP protocols; put our samples on ice; and deliver them to the PA-DEP Labs in Harrisburg (2568-2550 Interstate Dr, Harrisburg, PA 17110). Kent will send out an email to our team of volunteers in the next few days. Bob reported that he is working on creating a database to store the data we collect.
- 3. Summer 2023 Internship Program Updates.** Mike reported that a meeting was held on Zoom on Thurs. May 11 with Katie Doster of the Lebanon County Conservation District (LCCD); Kara Lubold, Executive Director, and Ron Birch, Treasurer of TLVC; and Kent and Mike representing the QWA. The purpose of the meeting was to iron out details of the internship, including how the interns will keep track of their hours worked; how they will be paid; liability insurance; and related issues. It was agreed that TLVC will pay the interns every two weeks based on their signed & submitted hours-worked forms, and then LCCD will reimburse TLVC. Mike further reported that classroom training of interns will commence on Mon. May 22 at the LCCD office, led by Rocky Powell, and continue with field training on Tues. May 23, also led by Rocky. Kara reported that the certificate of insurance liability has been worked out (interns will be considered temporary LCCD workers

and covered under the State Workers Insurance Fund (SWIF) of the PA Dept. of Labor & Industry).

4. **Historic Old Annville Day Outreach Opportunity, Sat. June 10.** Mike reported that he has reserved a space for Historic Old Annville Day, with setup from 7-9 am, tabling from 9 am—2 pm, and teardown from 2-3 pm. Bob has agreed to staff the table for QWA, and Katie for LCCD and the CAP program. Katie will bring the LCCD's model watershed; Mike will bring several gallons of water and a long extension cord, along with table literature. Mike has also ordered a new QWA banner that mimics our website banner.
5. **Project Updates.** Mike provided updates on several ongoing and proposed projects as these were conveyed to him by Rocky Powell earlier in the day:
  - A. **Beck Creek Project 6.** Total Construction Budget Cost estimate \$934,146.00. Based on discussion with PADEP Grant staff the Watershed Action Team decided to defer the \$250,000 from CAP funding to 2024 if needed; Letter of Intent from LCCD for \$173,110.00 from Agriculture Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP) was received 5/22/2023; PA Dept. of Community & Economic Development - Watershed Restoration and Protection Grant – Application submitted 5/31/2023 requesting \$266,587.00; PADEP Growing Greener Plus Grant for \$494,449.00 – Application to be submitted 6/6/2023. Total grant requests - \$934,146.00.
  - B. **Snitz Creek Project 2.** All permits obtained. Postponing request for funding for Construction until 2024 grant cycle. Cornwall Borough is providing - \$131,000 match, \$31,000 in land purchased from Krall Family and \$100,000 in cash; Not requesting any CAP funds. Construction 2025.
  - C. **Snitz Creek Project 3.** E&S Permit approved by LCCD; Pipeline Encroachment application approved; PADEP/USACOE Permits on hold pending redesign to reduce amount of rock used for bank stabilization. Postponing request for funding of Construction 2024 grant cycle. Construction 2025
  - D. **Snitz Creek Project 4.** All but one landowner has signed on, Russ Collins is working on it.
  - E. **Killinger Creek Project.** Preliminary design is completed. Scheduling meeting with landowners to present Preliminary Design.
  - F. **Bachman Run.** Preliminary channel alignment and buffer design was approved by landowners. Preliminary Design moving forward. We were made aware that Mrs. Bachman has put her property up for sale. Will follow up with Mr. Horst to determine how this may impact the project.
  - G. **Quittie Creek Restoration Project at Spruce St. Bridge** – The PA Fish & Boat Commission's contract with the contractor is expected next week.

6. **Leb. Co. Stormwater Consortium.** Bryan reported that work is expected to begin in June along Chestnut St. on the section of the Quittie mainstem downstream of the Hazel Dike and upstream of the 22nd St. bridge.
7. **Chesapeake Bay News.** Bryan reported on an article in today's paper focusing on how the sediment and nutrient reduction targets in the Chesapeake Bay watershed are not being met. Kent noted that VA, MD, and D.C. have filed suit against the EPA for failing to force PA to abide by cleanup requirements (see the Bay Journal of April 20, at [https://www.bayjournal.com/news/policy/settlement-proposed-for-chesapeake-bay-cleanup-lawsuit/article\\_12c0e65e-dfdc-11ed-b701-43001daef1d5.html](https://www.bayjournal.com/news/policy/settlement-proposed-for-chesapeake-bay-cleanup-lawsuit/article_12c0e65e-dfdc-11ed-b701-43001daef1d5.html) -- see also this May 9 article in the Bay Journal by Karl Blankenship: [https://www.bayjournal.com/news/fisheries/in-major-new-report-scientists-outline-path-to-a-better-chesapeake-bay-but-it-s/article\\_6234a9ec-ee68-11ed-a51d-a37fd2d6ab6d.html](https://www.bayjournal.com/news/fisheries/in-major-new-report-scientists-outline-path-to-a-better-chesapeake-bay-but-it-s/article_6234a9ec-ee68-11ed-a51d-a37fd2d6ab6d.html)). It was noted that there is increased DEP emphasis on seven PA counties considered "Tier 1" and "Tier 2," including Lebanon County (see <https://www.dep.pa.gov/Business/Water/Watershed-Restoration/Chesapeake-Bay-Watershed-Restoration/WIP3/GetInvolved/Pages/Countywide-Action-Plans.aspx>).
8. **QWA Support for the PA-American Water / Annville Free Library Educational Rain Garden.** Mike reported that the Annville Free Library received a \$5,000 grant from Pennsylvania American Water's 2023 Environmental Grant Program for its proposed "Pennsylvania American Water / Annville Free Library Educational Rain Garden," a proposal he helped to draft. His March 27 letter of support is appended to these minutes.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Schroeder, Secretary Pro Tem

Pennsylvania American Water  
Attn. Lorrie Page  
852 Wesley Drive  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055



27 March 2023

I am writing on behalf of the Quittapahilla Watershed Association (QWA) to offer our organization's full-throated support of the proposal being submitted by the Annville Free Library for a Pennsylvania American Water 2023 Environmental Grant for its proposed Pennsylvania American Water—Annville Free Library Educational Rain Garden.

As seen in the masthead of our website, the QWA is "Dedicated to cleaner water flowing from the Quittie to the Swatara to the Susquehanna to the Chesapeake Bay to the Atlantic & beyond." The rain garden being proposed by the Annville Free Library will serve that end, in two main ways, as described in their creative proposal.

In practical terms, it will serve to capture stormwater and mitigate the effects of excessive runoff into nearby Quittapahilla Creek. In terms of educating the public and larger community, it will serve an important pedagogical function by helping to teach library patrons and visitors about the importance of local, community-supported, ecologically friendly, and sustainable ways to manage stormwater and protect our local waterways.

The Annville Free Library is one of our most important and popular local civic institutions, with very strong community support and visited by thousands of patrons and visitors each year. It is an ideal site for the educational rain garden being proposed. For these reasons, we are delighted to offer our strong and unalloyed support of the Annville Free Library's proposal.

Respectfully, and for the watershed,

Michael Schroeder  
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