

QUITTAPAHILLA WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
Meeting Minutes
Annville Town Hall and Remotely Via Zoom (Hybrid Meeting)
Tuesday, July 16, 2024

Present: Michael Schroeder (President), Michael Collins, Russ Collins, Bob Connell, Joseph Connor, Kent Crawford, Karen Feather, Bryan Hoffman (Leb Co Stormwater Consortium), Katie Hollen (LCCD), Kara Lubold (LCCD)

The meeting opened at 7:08 p.m. because we were locked out of the meeting room(s) and had to improvise and hold our meeting in the hallway. Mike noted that he will get this resolved before the next meeting.

- 1. Minutes.** The minutes of the June 18 meeting were approved by consensus.

- 2. Monitoring Program Updates**
 - A. Upcoming August Fieldwork.** Katie has identified two upcoming fieldwork days: Monday, Aug. 5 (for Q1, Q2, and K1) and Thursday, August 8 (for S1, BK1, and BM1), starting at 8 am with calibrating the sonde and picking up the equipment at LVC, and in the field by 9 am.
 - B. Auto-Samplers.** Bryan reported that has arranged to drive to the Poconos on Mon July 22 to pick up the two auto-sampler units. He will let us know when the task is completed.
 - C. Data Logger Malfunctions.** Bob reported that the Hobo data logger at Beck Creek has stopped working again, and in light of repeated failures of our Hobo data loggers at several monitoring sites, suggested that it might be time to look for a new vendor. He agreed to investigate and come up with a recommendation. He reported that the Bachman Run sensor is working.
 - D. Temperature Profile.** Kent suggested working to get a temperature profile for the entire watershed and volunteered to follow up.

- 3. Summer Internship Program.** Kara reported that the student interns are on vacation this week but plan to return to the field next Mon July 22. She reported that they have completed assessment of Beck Creek and have moved on to Bachman Run.

- 4. Projects Update.** Russ reported that Doc Fritchey Trout Unlimited (DFTU) has been granted \$213,000 in Countywide Action Plan (CAP) funds for phase two of the second Syner Road project being undertaken by Aquatic Resources Restoration Co. (AARC). He reported that

that the first Syner Rd project is completed and looks good, and that they are wrapping things up with the landowner. Russ also reported what was also reported in a July 15 story in LebTown: that “At its July meeting, the South Annville Township Board of Supervisors agreed to assist the Doc Fritchey chapter of Trout Unlimited with a permit application for a stream restoration project.” For more details, see <https://lebtown.com/2024/07/15/s-annville-supervisors-to-aid-doc-fritchey-of-trout-unlimited-lower-speed-limit-on-bachman-road/>

- 5. Planning a Strategizing Meeting.** Discussion was held on holding a meeting to develop a strategy for stream restoration projects in the watershed that will include all the key local actors, including Rocky Powell and Rich Starr, and representatives of the QWA, the Lebanon County Conservation District (LCCD), including CAP, DFTU, and The Lebanon Valley Conservancy (TLVC). After discussion, consensus was reached that the first meeting, to be held in mid-to-late August, should be limited to key local players, and that for a second meeting we can cast a wider net to include representatives from PA-DEP, the Nature Conservancy, and neighboring watershed associations (Swatara, Conewago, and others). This is to get everyone on the same page and so that we are not competing against ourselves for scarce funding resources. Mike agreed to follow up and organize the meeting.
- 6. Planning a Meeting with the Lebanon County Planning Dept.** Discussion was held on holding a meeting with Julie Cheyney and Cherie Prentice-Brown in the Leb Co Planning Dept regarding their recently unveiled LCCWA Storymap Project (see <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/670c2a0363f74862abbb14d52b0f31fa>); the possibility of integrating our monitoring data into the county’s publicly available databases; and regarding our potential role in the process of developing an updated comprehensive plan (last updated in 2007; see <https://www.lebanoncountypa.gov/departments/planning/comprehensive-plan>) Mike agreed to follow up and organize the meeting.
- 7. Lebanon County Stormwater Consortium.** Bryan reported that things remain unsettled, with the Consortium slated to dissolve at the end of this calendar year unless the existing municipal members decide to renew it, which he expects they will do. He reported that the PA-DEP has announced that its requirements for the current 2020-2024 permitting cycle have been extended into 2025, with nothing more specific indicated, making it unclear to Consortium members how best to move forward. Mike reported that he was contacted by Daphne Messersmith, Chair of the Tree & Environment Committee at Cornwall Manor, who asked if he could offer a tour of the 22nd St / Chestnut St project downstream of the Hazel Dike, and that they agreed to a tour date of Wed Aug 7, with the carpool departing Cornwall

Manor at 9 am. Mike asked Bryan if he could join the walking tour, since he knows more about the project than Mike does. Mike also suggested inviting reporters from LebTown and the Lebanon Daily News to accompany the group, so that the public can be made more aware of the benefits of the project, especially in light of the negative comments that community members have been making about the project and what an eyesore it is.

8. Upcoming Special Events.

- A. Thursday, Sept 12.** As reported in last month's meeting minutes, Kara reported that the Capital Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Area Council in Harrisburg (<https://www.capitalrcd.org/>), which meets every other month on Zoom, would be interested in a short presentation on our Summer Internship Program on Thursday, September 12 from 9—11 am, and Mike responded that he would be happy to present.
- B. Saturday, Nov. 16.** Katie reported that the Lancaster-Lebanon Watershed Forum is scheduled for Saturday, November 16, at the Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area.

- 9. QWA Website.** Mike reported that he has resolved the technical issue preventing him from updating the website.

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Schroeder, Secretary Pro Tem