



## Management Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 29, 2022 10:00 AM– 11:30 PM via Zoom

(Visit [www.lowerdelawarewildandscenic.org](http://www.lowerdelawarewildandscenic.org) for the Zoom and for additional reference information.)

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### Attendance:

Richard Dodds-Chair, LDWS	David Chait-Hopewell Township
Martie Kyde-Vice-chair, LDWS	CC Hopf
Sara Bursky-NPS	Stephen Willey
Robert McEwan, Solebury Township	Jackie Middleton-HLT
Bob Hornby-Hunterdon County	Matt Babbitt-HC
Tara Mezzonatte-Warren County, Knowlton Township	Stephen Freeman-Devil's Tea Table Alliance
Judith Henckel	Dana Eastern PA Climbers
Donna Rendeiro- State of NJ Office of Planning Advocacy	Katie Martens-PA DCNR
	Mark Baum Baicker
	Christopher Garges

Call to order 10:03 am

### 1. Welcome - Richard Dodds, Chairman – Introductions and Land Acknowledgement

- We would like to acknowledge that our work as a Council is on the traditional lands and home of the Lenape People, Lenapehokink, and we pay our respects to those who have stewarded this land from time immemorial and are still doing so today. We commit to improving this relationship, supporting Lenape recognition in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and working together on programs and projects to benefit the Delaware River.
- Approval of June 2022 Minutes (attached) CC first, Martie second, approved unanimously

### 2. Warehouse Planning, Donna Rendeiro, Executive Director, State of NJ Office of Planning Advocacy (20 minutes). The State of NJ Office of Planning Advocacy is not a regulatory agency. There has been a move for warehouses into a more rural area, outside of traditional urban locations.

- Municipalities should update master plans and zoning proactively.
- Specify size and other standards. Adequate buffer, stormwater, and sewage capacity.
- Warehouses should be close to highway networks. Have enough emergency services.
- Important to do a cost-benefit analysis when considering proposed projects.
- Tara-Warren County proposed a resolution against selling county property or right of way to large-scale project

### 3. Wild & Scenic Business - Richard Dodds, Chairman (10 Minutes Including Q&A)

- **Wekiva** in-person gathering, December 2022 – Sarah (NPS)
- **CDRW Forum** – Nov 3, 4 [Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed – 2022 Forum \(delriverwatershed.org\)](http://delriverwatershed.org)
- **Paunacussing Restoration work** – Sarah (NPS) and Robert McEwan
  - i. Issue in Solebury from flooding and erosion. NPS is helping with the design and environmentally friendly infrastructure solutions.
- **Streambank restoration** to Tinicum tributary on October 29-Martie Kyde



- i. Conservation easement and small stream, a tributary to Delaware. 12-20 volunteers, master watershed stewards replanting banks of the stream at no cost.

4. **Next Steps on River Use Planning Process with RTCA Program at NPS** - Cindy Kunnas (10 minutes)

- Workplan
- Upcoming meeting on October 4th
- Martie-Online messaging review for task 7

5. **Delaware River Tributaries and new designations** – Robert McEwan (10 minutes)

- Volunteers are needed for gathering information stage, walk streams and trails.
- Look at lists and find if there are people already working on some of the streams.

6. **Mini-Grant Projects** – Cindy (5 minutes)

- Current Round – (Cindy) All submitted final reports, except for two.
  1. Bridgeton Township started its project for fall planting. Sent letter to residents.
  2. Philips Youth Corps requested an extension.
- ii. Delaware Township/Bull's Island, Lambertville Shade Tree, Solebury Township, and Primrose Creek completed plantings
- iii. Aquatong Creek Watershed Association purchased additional in-stream water quality data monitoring equipment. 5 Bluetooth enabled temperature pendants and dissolved oxygen (DO) in-stream data logger.
- iv. Tinicum held their rain barrel workshop. It was well attended.
- v. NJDEP Pond Mussel study is complete but unable to process the samples until late October to early November. They will follow up.
- Next Round - Discussion of next mini-grant round – opening soon!– Richard
  - i. 11 months to get work done
  - ii. Open to applications that relate to organizational goals.

7. **Budget Update** – Richard (5 minutes)

- Sarah-closing out the last federal fiscal cycle. Mini-grant work to be presented at December's meeting. Some dollars will be reallocated that were unused.

8. **Ongoing Matters** (30 Minutes) –

- Rockfall Mitigation Projects/NJDOT - Tara Mezzanotte
  - Tara-presented visuals of the project area. Brought public's attention to erosion hole along I-80 retaining wall. NJDOT repaired the wall without required permits from NJDEP, the Army Corps of engineers, or consulting NPS. Reconfigured riparian zone. Cleared riparian zone along the wall. Applied to NPS post-construction permit, claimed to consult with Army Corps and NPS, which was incorrect. Must remove rocks below the high-water mark and NJDOT has not completed yet. Need to push for an environmental impact statement for the rockfall project.
  - Stephen on Devil's Tea Table, Delaware Township, Lambertville, and Solebury passed resolutions opposing or questioning the project. Eight townships plus Hunterdon County passed resolutions. New Hope is considering a resolution. Every surrounding township has weighed in except for New Hope. This work can allow more aggressive petitions to encourage elected officials to oppose. The project was pushed back to 2026.



- Richard-without the pushback against NJDOT, the project would be in the works now.
- Warehouse projects
  - Jaindl amendment, White Township, to NJDEP WQMP-no news
    - LDWS submitted comments (attached)
  - Richard-High cube can go up 14 floors, with less of a footprint on the ground and high volume, significant truck traffic.
- Delaware Water Gap as a National Park? Is anyone following this closely?
  - Tara-Sierra Club has proposed a plan to turn it into a National Park.
  - Richard is interested in the pros and cons.
  - Tara provided sites with both sides of the issue: <https://delvalpark.org/>  
<https://www.nonationalpark.org/>

#### 9. 2022 Dates:

- 2022 LDWS Council Meeting: Thursdays at 10:00 AM
  - Cindy to poll Steering Committee and Management Committee

Adjourn at 11:34 am

#### Attachments/Handouts

- September Agenda
- June Minutes
- Jaindl DEP comments

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86814727295?pwd=VzZ4VC83NU1JemhROEcrbUJERHVoQT09>

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