



## Association Meeting Summary for May 17, 2011

**Next Meeting:** June 21, 2011- 7:30 to 9:30 am- Patton Township Municipal Building

**Attendees:** Paul Bartley, Bob Donaldson, Ann Donovan, Bob Eberhart, Jim Gazza, Kristen Saacke-Blunk, Bill Sharp, and Jennifer Shuey

**Guests:** Steve Weyandt

**Staff present:** Nick Schipanski (ClearWater Conservancy)

Chair Kristen Saacke Blank called the meeting to order at 7:40 am.

- 1) **Speaker:** Steve Weyandt; Environmental compliance Engineer, PSU: **"Penn State's Source Water Protection Plan"** *Presentation recorded and posted online at <https://meeting.psu.edu/p59618636/>*
- 2) **Review of Agenda and Meeting Summary.** No changes to agenda or comments on April meeting notes.
- 3) **Past Events**
  - a) Watershed Cleanup Day
    - i) Event occurred April 23.
    - ii) Over 300 volunteers removed 49.58 tons of trash
    - iii) Wet weather resulted in cancellation of typical canoe cleanup of streams and cancellation of a final cleanup at the Breon farm dump.
  - b) Big Springs Festival.
    - i) Occurred on May 15.
    - ii) ClearWater and Association shared a table but otherwise a low turnout of exhibitors (approximately 8).
    - iii) Low turnout of public due to steady rain during first half of the event.
    - iv) Use of High School students needing volunteer hours to staff the Association table was considered a success.
  - c) County Commissioner Candidate's Forum
    - i) Forum was held on May 5.
    - ii) All candidates participated. Approximately 45 people attended. Association members commented that the event was very well run and the content was informative and useful. Bill Sharp noted that the CDT covered the event well. Bob Eberhart noted the good collaboration with the Sierra Club and League of Women Voters. The event was recorded: some technical glitches arose but concept is promising.

- d) Arbor Day at PSU.
  - i) Jen participated in the event held on April 29 that was organized as an educational opportunity for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade students.
  - ii) Discussed the Spring Creek watershed and handed out watershed maps.
  - iii) Jen considered the event well run and hopes to participate in the future.
- 4) Upcoming Events.
  - a) Spring Creek Family Festival
    - i) Will be held at Millbrook Marsh on Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Proceeded by 5K Strides for Nature fun run.
    - ii) Chris Hennessey at Clearwater is signing up exhibitors; the Association is invited to participate.
- 5) Committee Reports
  - a) Source Water Protection
    - i) Bob Donaldson reported that the Commission accepted the idea that Source Water Protection for systems in need would become a project of theirs. The Commission agreed to organize a meeting of water suppliers, although a time frame for this was not determined.
    - ii) Bob D and Bob E discussed role/responsibility for the Association. They discussed the aquifer mapping as an example: the Commission took up the project but momentum for the project seems to have stalled. There will be a need for the Association to insure something similar does not happen to Source Water Protection. Bob E noted that the group doing the aquifer report is volunteer so it is difficult to make demands but the fact that the Commission hasn't been doing any follow-up doesn't help. Paul B stated that the Chair of the Commission should be responsible for contacting the working group. Bob D stated that Association members that are also Commission members will attempt to move the aquifer issue forward.
  - b) Water Resources Monitoring.
    - i) Nick reported that the next meeting of the WRMP committee will be June 8<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm at Clearwater. UAJA agreed to their annual contribution of \$9,500 to WRMP.
    - ii) UAJA has agreed to contribute \$4,750 to support the Hauserville Gage.
- 6) Agency / Committee / Organization Updates.
  - a) ClearWater Conservancy
    - i) Jen reported that ClearWater's Board of Directors has adopted a Marcellus position statement. A new committee will review issues that arise on a case-by-case basis.
    - ii) Clearwater's accreditation application was submitted on May 16<sup>th</sup>.
    - iii) Riparian restoration program is gearing up for the season.
  - b) Centre County Conservation District
    - i) Ann has lots of education work: education program with 5<sup>th</sup> graders on Spring and Bald Eagle creek watersheds; collaboration with Beech Creek Watershed Association to educate Mount Nittany 5<sup>th</sup>-graders about AMD.
    - ii) A grant application to USFWS is in progress.
  - c) Spring Creek Chapter Trout Unlimited

- i) Bob E reported that a meeting of TU, Sierra Club and Clearwater to develop communication/education materials geared toward legislative representatives can now move forward with Clearwater's adoption of its position statement.
- ii) Bob D reported that grant request for stream improvement project in Oak Hall at confluence of Spring Creek and Cedar Run was denied.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:35 am.

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*Minutes prepared by N. Schipanski*