



Association Meeting Summary for July 19, 2011

Next Meeting: August 16, 2011- 7:30 to 9:30 am- Patton Township Municipal Building

Attendees: Kent Addis, Paul Bartley, Bob Donaldson, Rob Cooper, Ann Donovan, Bob Eberhart, Barbara Fisher, Nick Schipanski, Bill Sharp, and Jennifer Shuey

Bob Donaldson called the meeting to order at 8:05 am.

- 1) **Review of Agenda and Meeting Summary.** No changes to agenda or comments on June meeting notes.
- 2) **Upcoming Events**
 - a) Invitation from Bill Sharp for SCWA participation in planning committee for proposed Marcellus forum(s) sponsored by Transition Towns
 - i) Transition Towns plans forum or series of forums with panels representing all viewpoints. Format to be determined. Target date for first forum: October. Plan to do one forum and expand to series if interest for that.
 - ii) Bill floated idea of broadening sponsors to include SCWA, TU, Sierra Club, League of Women Voters.
 - iii) Bob D believed that there was little follow-up/interest in community to joint Marcellus position statement from CW/TU/Sierra Club, wondered if there was enough interest in Centre Region to gain audience for forums. Rob Cooper noted that new air quality regulations are driving PSU and others to transition to natural gas for energy generation. Bill responded that many environmental advocates are pro-gas for energy generation- why he believes that forum is needed to examine issues.
 - iv) Bob D asked how the forum would fit with the Associations mission to protect Spring Creek watershed. Bill stated impacts from increased transportation through watershed, water withdrawals, potential Utica formation drilling.
 - v) Paul Bartley asked what the goal of the forum would be. Bill stated that a need exists to discuss the energy futures and alternatives to carbon-based fuels.
 - vi) Bob Eberhart stated that the issue before the Association was whether to send a representative to participate on a steering committee, not to get the Association to commit to anything at this point. He did not see any problem with having an Association member sit on the steering committee. Given lack of response to C/TU/Sierra Club Marcellus letter, public forum may be way to raise awareness
 - vii) Bob Donaldson volunteered to represent association on forum steering committee.

3) **Committee Reports**

a) Source Water Protection

- i) Nick S reported that he spoke with Steve Miller about status of Watershed Commission invites to local water suppliers for meeting with Mark Stephens of DEP. Steve believed final details still needed to be worked out but meeting would take place.

b) Water Resources Monitoring.

- i) 2010 Annual Report update- WRMC will provide PA Fish and Boat Commission's Spring Creek Fishery report, in response to high demand for it and limited availability. Plan is to provide 2-3 copies per funding body. Will be accompanied by bound data for 2010, presented as in previous years. Should be ready early- to mid-August.
- ii) USGS gage funding update:
 - (1) Houserville: \$16,700 is needed to operate the gage for fiscal year Oct 1, 2010 through Sept 30, 2011. USGS will contribute \$6,700. UAJA has contributed \$4,200 for gage for year ending Sept 30, 2011. \$5,250 remains to be raised to cover remaining 2010-11 gage obligation. Rick Wardrop has contacted Judi Sittler at TU for \$2500 contribution- Rick and Nick will discuss request with TU Board at their meeting on September 12th. Susan Buda is reaching out to contacts at SRBC for additional funding.
 - (2) Milesburg: Priority for WRMPC has been to keep Houserville operating, rather than maintaining real-time at Milesburg. WRMP has not been working to raise funds for Milesburg.

4) **Agency / Committee / Organization Updates.**

- a) Centre county Conservation District. Ann Donovan played radio public service announcements funded by Dominion grant.

b) Spring Creek Watershed Commission

- i) Nick S reported on his conversation with Steve Miller regarding the Aquifer Committee: Steve has heard nothing recently and considers the committee no longer active.

c) Clearwater Conservancy

- i) Jen Shuey reported that USGS got another extension from DEP to December 2011 for producing watershed model
- ii) 8th Annual Otto's Golf-Fest will be held August 29th.

5) **Other items**

- a) Bob D noted sediment discharges into Spring Creek on July 7th storm from Nittany Middle School athletic field. Reported to Conservation District.
- b) Bob D will check with Kristen about interest in changing meeting start time to 8:00 am.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 am.

Minutes prepared by N. Schipanski