



Spring Creek Watershed Association Meeting

March 18, 2014

7:30 AM to 9:00 AM

Patton Township Municipal Building

100 Patton Plaza, State College PA 16803

Meeting Summary

Attendees: Kevin Abbey, Paul Bartey, Lori Davis, Ann Donovan, Bob Eberhart, Barbara Fisher, Jim Gazza, Todd Giddings, Sydney Laudenslager, Jim May, Kristen Saacke-Blunk, Mike Schmidt, Jennifer Shuey, Judi Sitler, Bryan Swistock and Bob Vierck.

1. Welcome & Introductions

2. 7:35 AM to 8:30 AM:

Bryan Swistock, Water Resource Coordinator with Penn State Extension, spoke to the Association about results obtained from testing private water wells and roadside springs in the Centre Region. His talk is available on the Spring Creek Watershed Association's youtube page. For his presentation visit - <http://youtu.be/M572kt3m9dU> and to view questions following Bryan's talk visit - <http://youtu.be/coRddPLHCOW>.

Bryan announced that registration for the PA Groundwater Symposium which will be held on May 7th at the Ramada Inn is now open. Registration fee is \$30.

3. 8:30 AM to 9:30 AM: Association Business

a. CCCD Stormwater Workshop update –

Kristen provided an update for the workshop that was held the next day on March 19th, 2014 from 9am to 3pm at the Penn State's Visitors and Convention Center Auditorium. Kristen noted that there were 80 people registered. The objective of the workshop was for outside experts to present case studies of the innovative approaches they are taking to stormwater management in the areas they are working, and to provide a discussion with local panelist on how we can use what is going on elsewhere in Centre County. Featured speakers included: Charlotte Katzenmoyer, Director of Public Works, City of Lancaster, Dahlia Thompson of Hazen and Sawyer Engineers, Monica Billig of the Environmental Finance Center, University of Marland, and Dave Gilbert from Gannett Fleming. A group of local



panelists will include: D.J. Liggett, Centre Region Council of Governments; Larry Fennessey, PSU Physical Plant, and Amy Kerner, State College Borough.

Lori announced that there is a 50% cost share offered to homeowner's to implement a stormwater management project on their property. Funds are limited to \$1000 and there is \$250 cap per homeowner. Interested homeowner's will need to fill out a questionnaire and submit it to Ann Donovan at the Centre County Conservation District. A copy of the questionnaire can be found at <https://www.dropbox.com/s/nhr01y6tebhzzab/Stormwater%20questionnaire.pdf>.

b. Judi's Acceptance Speech –

Judi provided a brief biography of herself and background. Judi read the mission statement and encouraged the group to think about the mission statement along with the strategic goals of the organization, and to formulate some ideas for discussion at our May business meeting.

Lori mentioned that the Patton Township Building is not available for our May meeting. She recommended meeting at ClearWater. Kristen recommended meeting at New Leaf. The issue of no free parking was raised; however, parking is free until 10AM downtown. Kristen was going to look into whether the meeting could be held there.

c. Partner Updates –

Kristen Saacke-Blunke – NFWF 2014 RFPs are out as of March 19th. RFPs are centered on green infrastructure in urban landscapes. Matt Royer will be speaking at the Commission meeting on March 19th about the Homeowner's Guide to Stormwater Management.

Barb Fisher – Salad Club is being offered at New Leaf Initiative every Friday at noon starting on March 21st.

Judi Sitler– Spring Creek TU has received funding for their Return to Roots program through the League of Women Voters WREN grant. TU has selected the winning homeowner for their Backyard Makeover program. The makeover will take place sometime in May at a home along Slab Cabin Run.

Lori Davis – Reminder that Watershed Cleanup Day will be held on April 26th from 8AM to Noon, still looking for volunteers.

Jen Shuey – Matt Royer with PSU Extension has an ERM class this spring working to develop stormwater outreach tools. On March 27th from 2:30 to 3:45PM in the Life Science Building room 5, Matt invited people to come to the class to discuss



SPRING CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

A grassroots stakeholder initiative

and address issues in the community with the students. If interested, please let Jen know.

Bob Vierck – TU's annual fundraiser will be on March 29th. There will be a live auction on a painting done by Jen. Tickets are still available online at Spring Creek TU's website. TU is going to plant trees on April 22nd and 23rd across from McCoy's Dam and is looking for volunteers. Mark Nale's article was in the CDT on Sunday. At the April meeting Jason Detar will be talking about the threats to the Spring Creek Fishery, at the May meeting Larry Fennessey will be talking about the Thompson Run and the Duck Pond, and at the June meeting there will be a tour with Cory Miller at UAJA.

Paul Bartley – Bald Eagle Watershed Association taking on project along Spring Creek. They would like to build an access point, and are looking for letters of support for the grant. The project will hopefully take place near Milesburg Community Park.

Todd Giddings – PA Groundwater Association's summer field conference will be held on June 13th next to the Home Dept. There will be demonstration of drilling methods. Federal, state, local authorities and/or planning personnel will be given free registration. For all others to attend the fee will be \$45. More information online at www.pgwa.org.

Jim Gazza - Reported that the convenience store next to Big Spring in Bellefonte did remove tanks.

Jim May – There will be a training course held this summer on PA community course planning which will provide an overview of code and the role of planning agencies. They are opening the course up to the Centre Region first. There will be an open house held in the fall for the community to discuss what they feel are big issues in the Centre Region Comprehensive Plan. A meeting to discuss the redesignation of Slab Cabin Run will be held on March 24th at 1PM at UAJA. A request to expand the source and service area and growth boundary for College Township will likely be presented sometime in April. This will be done to potentially open up a farm adjacent to University Drive to development. Patton Township has a survey out currently to determine if residents are willing to continue paying tax.

4. The next meeting will be April 15, 2014 at 7:30 AM at the Patton Township Municipal Building. Kristen Saacke Blunk is scheduled to speak on the topic of the NFWF and its business plan in support of the Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund.