

**Upper Delaware Council**  
**PROJECT REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**December 12, 2023**

Committee Members Present: Aaron Robinson, Harold Roeder Jr., Dennis Bernitt, Al Henry, Fred Peckham (Zoom), Ginny Dudko, Larry Richardson, Jeff Dexter, Andy Boyar, Evan Padua (Zoom)

Committee Members Absent: None

Staff: Laurie Ramie, Kerry Engelhardt, Stephanie Driscoll

NPS Partners: Lindsey Kurnath, Carly Marshall (Zoom)

Guests: Bill Dudko

The UDC's Project Review Committee held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, December 12, 2023 at the UDC office in Narrowsburg, NY. Chairperson Richardson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. There was no public comment on the agenda.

**Approval of November 28, 2023:** A motion by Robinson seconded by G. Dudko to approve the 11/28 meeting minutes carried.

**Resources and Land Use Specialist Update:**

**New York State Projects**

There was one notice posted Notices of Applications Received by the DRBC in December in the river corridor in NYS. The site is considerably north of the Upper Delaware River corridor, but it is located within the watershed of the Upper Delaware:

**Village of Liberty, D-2013-002 CP-2.**

An application to renew the approval of a surface water and groundwater withdrawal project to supply up to 45.0 mgm of water to the applicant's public water system from an existing intake located in Lily Pond and up to 30.0 mgm of groundwater from the existing Elm Street Well and a total allocation of 75.0 mgm. The requested allocations are increases to the currently approved surface water, groundwater and combined total allocations of 7.75 mgm, 23.25 mgm and 24.9 mgm, respectively. The surface water withdrawal is located in the Beaver Kill Watershed in the Town of Liberty, Sullivan County, New York and the groundwater well is completed in unconsolidated sand and gravel in the Mongaup River Watershed in the Village of Liberty, Sullivan County, New York. The project is located within the drainage area of the Upper Delaware, which the Commission has classified as Special Protection Waters.

**Town of Tusten**

Narrowsburg Flats Pavilion: Engelhardt said she has not received any plans from Supervisor Ben Johnson or anyone else from Tusten. Johnson did stop in to the office this afternoon about filing an application. There was an article included in the packet about the project from the *River Reporter* 12/7-13 issue.

**Town of Highland**

Engelhardt included an article from the *Sullivan County Democrat* by Derek Kirk that the Town of Highland will be submitting a pre-application for funding in order to transform a portion of Route 97 into a "shared highway." A shared highway would mean the implementation of walking and hiking trails complete with required safety accommodations, which would run parallel to the road and Delaware River.

**Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Projects**

There were no posted Notices of Applications Received by the DRBC in December in the Upper Delaware River Watershed in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

**Open Substantial Conformance Reviews**

| Project ID | Project Name | Municipality         | Action                        | Status   |
|------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| 2022-03    | Camp FIMFO   | Town of Highland, NY | Class II – Special Use Permit | NPS issued a letter dated July 17, 2023 indicating that the project does not substantially conform to the RMP. A supporting report was also issued. <b>Closed.</b> |

Engelhardt attended the Town of Highland Planning Board meeting on November 28<sup>th</sup>. The Board explained that they had received many comments from the public, which were collected and organized by their consultant, Keystone Associates, who prepared a letter to the applicant requesting 91 additions or revisions to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) Draft Scoping Document. The applicant’s attorney agreed to make those changes and resubmit. The next meeting will be on December 20<sup>th</sup> and if Camp FIMFO is on the agenda, she plans to attend.

All contracts for the FY2024 TAGs have been signed. Mid-term reports are due in February.

Engelhardt plans to speak to Jessica Yoder of Pike County Planning on Friday at the Wayne/Pike Conservation Partnership meeting regarding the corridor mapping project.

**New Business:**

**UDC Releases Annual Code Enforcement Report for River Towns and Townships:** Engelhardt and Ramie said this is a print out of the press release they collaborated on to issue on 12/7. The press release is also posted on the website under Publications. The goal is to show the communities this is one of the services the UDC performs through its data collection.

**Other:** None.

**Old Business:**

**12/7 UDC-NPS Telecommunications Work Session:** Ramie said there will be no meetings going forward. They are paused until such time there is new info to share, although there may be interim communications on the topic. Since the technology is rapidly evolving, by the time a position paper is put together it may be outdated and the town/ships all have some type of ordinances on the books. If an application comes forward, we can reactivate the subcommittee.

**Other:** Kurnath asked the committee if they had heard of an Eric Beck who owns a landlocked property in Damascus Township. Dexter said he knew what she was talking about and that there had been a verbal agreement for decades regarding permission to drive along the edge of the property. He’s never heard of anyone else being involved. This is not a UDC or NPS issue; it’s for Damascus Township to deal with. Richardson said in New York it’s “buyer beware” and over the years there were often times friendly agreements but they were never legalized. Robinson said you can push for easements through the court; you have to have surveyed the best entry and the courts evaluate that. Kurnath thanked Dexter for providing the background information after this request came to NPS.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Adjournment:** A Motion moved by Bernitt, seconded by G. Dudko to adjourn at 6:45 p.m. carried.