

WATER USE/RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMM. MEETING MINUTES
December 13, 2022

Committee Members Present: Ginny Dudko, Andy Boyar, Al Henry, Fred Peckham (Zoom), Pat Jeffer, Evan Padua

Committee Members Absent: None.

Staff: Laurie Ramie, Kerry Engelhardt, Ashley Hall-Bagdonas

NPS Partner: Kara Deutsch- Acting Superintendent (Zoom), Don Hamilton- Chief of Resource Management (Zoom), Cody Hendrix- Community & Land Use Planner, Alex Garcia- Maldonado- Cultural Resources (Zoom)

Guests: Bill Dudko- Deerpark Alternate

The UDC's Water Use/Resource Management Committee held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, December 13th, 2022. Chairperson Dudko called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

Approval of November 15, 2022 Meeting Minutes: A motion by Boyar seconded by Henry approving the November 15th, 2022 meeting minutes carried. There was no public comment on the agenda.

New Business

Letter of Gratitude from Kara Lukowski from the *Lackawaxen Connection*: Engelhardt As a resident of Lackawaxen Township, Engelhardt receives the *Lackawaxen Connection* newsletter and found a letter by tuber, Kara Lukowski from Baltimore, MD who was part of a group of five rescued on the Upper Delaware River on 8/16/22 that she wanted to share with the committee.

Delaware River Flow & Storage Report: The 12/12 DRBC Hydrological Conditions Report noted combined storage is at 72.8%.

Other: None.

Old Business

Highland Access Update: Engelhardt reported that Sullivan County Planner Heather Jacksy is happy with how construction is progressing. There was a meeting with the engineer today and Engelhardt will be attending a 12/14 meeting at the Highland Access to report back on the construction status to members.

Bouchouxville Trail Signage Request: Ramie is facilitating efforts by Peckham to replace missing directional signs and improve the navigation at the NYS DEC Bouchouxville Trail in the Town of Hancock. She reached out to the NYS DEC and DOT representatives that she contacted back in 2016 and 2020 when UDC was notified about this. Consultant Peter Manning immediately responded and showed the types of signage that they have there and gave the dimensions. The signs were manufactured at the Eastern Correctional Facility, and the contract is long over at this point. Manning said that NYS DEC or DOT would need to reorder some of these panels.

Seabin Trash Capture Update: Engelhardt will do further research on the pros and cons of Seabin River Trash-Capture Devices that are being used in the Delaware Estuary to collect microplastics based on an offer by the DRBC to partner with the UDC on a potential grant application.

11/28 Upper Delaware Scenic Byway Meeting Minutes: Ramie provided a copy of the 11/28 Upper Delaware Scenic Byway Minutes for members' review.

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12/7 Eagle Committee Report: Engelhardt attended the Eagle Committee meeting via Zoom on 12/7. Engelhardt couldn't attend the training on 12/10 this year as she was in Atlanta at that time. They discussed the bus tours and confirmed who would be leading those. Ingrid Peterec mentioned that Zane Grey Museum lost National Park Service funding for their visitors center so they will be reapplying for that to hopefully make it possible for 2025. Peterec also announced that the Ten Mile River Access area will not be maintained through the winter season and any debris there will not be dealt with until the Spring.

12/9 Local History Roundtable Report: Ramie attended the Local History Roundtable meeting on 12/9 at the Wallenpaupack Environmental Learning Center. The Historical Societies and others represented were: Dorflinger Factory Museum; Forest City; Equinunk; Wallenpaupack; Damascus; Waymart; Wayne County; Bethany; Luzerne County; White Mills; Dorflinger Glass Museum; Greene-Dreher; and the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission as well as Ramie for the UDC. There was a report on America 250 which is a multiyear effort to commemorate July 4, 2026 as the semi-quintcentennial of our country's independence.

PA's 250 anniversary will be in 2026 and Carol Henry Dunn showed the group a 1976 newspaper that listed 100 historical sites in the county. They want to do a similar booklet/listing of the "100 oldest and most revered places in Wayne County" by 2025 and will seek funding for publication.

They had a discussion of the 2022 season and asked everyone what their experience was with visitation in terms of their numbers. The groups shared what projects they have going on currently. It was pretty universally noted that bus tours are still not back to normal with people still reluctant to get into that small space because of COVID. They are hoping that comes back stronger next season.

2026 is the 100th anniversary of Lake Wallenpaupack and the Wallenpaupack Historical Society will be doing a book on that.

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission has grants up to \$5,000 per institution for archival records care. Several groups mentioned they have benefited from that program.

They are looking at the date of 4/29 for the Local History Festival and considering having rotating locations. They will set up a committee to explore ideas.

There was a presentation by Kenn Anderson on his audio tourguide "Warrior Road- The Story of Sullivan's March through PA Before the Invasion of the Iroquois Homelands". The next meeting will be 3/10 at Dorflinger Factory Museum in White Mills.

12/13 Delaware River Sojourn Meeting Report: The 2023 Delaware River Sojourn be held June 16-23 with a theme of "Running Free!". It will focus on the Upper and Middle Delaware portions. Engelhardt will be sharing about that event on UDC social media. If you would like to order a t-shirt you can find event merch at: <https://delawareriversojourn.com/index.php/store/>

Other: None.

Adjournment: A Motion by Henry seconded by Boyar to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m. was carried.