

WATER USE/RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMM. MEETING MINUTES

October 17, 2023

Committee Members Present: Ginny Dudko – Town of Deerpark, Al Henry – Berlin Township, Dennis Bernitt – Town of Fremont, Fred Peckham (Zoom) – Town of Hancock, Evan Padua (Zoom) – Town of Tusten, Pat Jeffer – Shohola Township

Committee Members Absent: Andy Boyar – Town of Highland

Staff: Executive Director - Laurie Ramie, Administrative Support - Stephanie Driscoll, Resources and Land Use Specialist - Kerry Engelhardt

NPS Partner: Andy Weber – National Park Service, Aquatic Ecologist

Guests: Bill Dudko - Deerpark Alternate, Ruby Rayner-Haselkorn – River Reporter

The UDC’s Water Use/Resource Management Committee held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. Chairperson Dudko called the meeting to order at 6:29 pm.

Approval of September 19, 2023 meeting minutes: A motion by Henry seconded by Bernitt approving the September 19, 2023 meeting minutes carried. There was no public comment on the agenda.

Old Business:

9/21 & 10/10 Sojourn Committee Meeting: Engelhardt reported on 9/21 the Upper Delaware day planners got together to discuss possible paddling segments for next year. They decided to make the first day a longer paddle than usual. There are only two upper days scheduled for next year and Peterec suggested starting in the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River and paddling through the Hawks Nest and Port Jervis to go into the Delaware Water Gap area. They presented that idea to the full Steering Committee on 10/10. They suggested not making it too long so she and Peterec are working on where they want to put boats in and take them out. Dates were decided for the 2024 Sojourn of June 14th – 22nd. They plan to do an extra day (Saturday) to paddle the tidal Delaware. Themes were discussed with no final decision yet. It seemed like everyone was leaning toward the river as inspiration in art, literature and science. B. Dudko asked how far down the tidal area they planned to go. Engelhardt said to Pennsbury Manor. B. Dudko asked if that was where the Roebling Museum is and Engelhardt replied no. She said it would be a more isolated day with people driving to do the paddle with no camping involved.

G. Dudko said she knows they have a lot of the same people come back and asked if maybe going farther down the Delaware River would attract some new people. Engelhardt thinks so; they should get more people from the city for just that day. It helps that it’s a Saturday. G. Dudko asked how long it’s been since the Sojourn started. Engelhardt said they had just had an anniversary, maybe 25/30 years. Ramie said she believes it started in 1995. Sandy Schultz from NPS UPDE was one of the people who helped create it.

9/25 Upper Delaware Scenic Byway Meeting: The minutes were provided in the packets. Ramie said Assemblywoman Gunther came through with another grant for the byway of \$25,000. This is a legislative grant being administered through the NYS Office of Children and Family Services. The byway offers programs for families and children and this will go toward the grants the byway gives out for vista clearing, pollinator gardens, butterfly habitat education, signage, and historical and cultural programs. It frees up money in the regular UDSB budget to potentially be used for salary purposes, and by that she means an independent contractor to extend the Program Manager position. This was an experimental position for six months with a contract that ended in August. Right now, there is no Program Manager operating. The funds that Sullivan County offers each year would be used for salaries, which is permissible under that program. The byway is requesting \$40,000, which may get knocked down. That funding doesn’t typically come through until the middle of the year by the time it’s released. The state application had to be in by October 7th, 30 days after the congratulatory letter was received. October 6th was the deadline for the Sullivan County program. Ramie had compiled the paperwork with John Pizzolato on the byway’s behalf.

They discussed what the process is once the construction begins at the Callicoon Depot in terms of the UDC and NPS having a role to play in that, since it's located within the river corridor. Larry Richardson took them through the Project Review process for the UDC and said that existing building renovations probably wouldn't rise to the level of a review, but a change of use for the property could. The only construction happening so far is the repair of the freight-loading dock which has been traditionally used as a stage. It has been torn apart, being deemed unsafe. They are salvaging the wood from that to be used for other purposes. Volunteer labor is being provided by the construction trade students from the Delaware Valley Job Corps Center. Richard Lowe said that the building is always regarded as historic being from 1896. It is not the original train station that was there however, with fires and various things that happened over the years. Lowe mentioned that the depot is the third version of the station that exists on the site, yet all of the historic protocols will be followed in addition to modern building codes and ADA accessibility issues. The byway committee reaffirmed its support to move forward with The Visitor Center at The Callicoon Depot after discussing alternatives, with other sites being ruled out for various reasons. The money has already been vested and committed to the depot. B. Dudko commented that Nicole Vallance from the Callicoon Business Association had shed light on a lot of issues and brought a lot to the table by her attendance at the last meeting. Ramie said Vallance emphasized there is a plan in place when they speak about the long-term staffing and maintenance.

Ramie said there were some issues brought up under the DOT report that B. Dudko had mentioned at the meeting. At the Barbara Yeaman Eagle Observation area in the Town of Highland, there is a drastic drop-off from where Route 97 has been repaved to the area's parking lot of a few inches. They talked about a more gradual slope being created. Rosie DeCristofaro questioned the new technique being used to pave Route 97 this time with a tar and chip method. They are doing it that way because it lasts longer. B. Dudko said the DOT's response was that as the access owners, had to bring the grade up from where the Barbara Yeaman Eagle Observatory is. Ramie said those accesses are owned or managed partially by the DOT, DEC and NPS. G. Dudko said it wouldn't take much to grade off the curb.

There are only two more "Keep the Byway Clean" signs that need to be installed in the Town of Lumberland and the Town of Delaware. There is an existing work permit that allows that installation to take place.

The next UDSB monthly meeting will be this coming Monday, October 23rd at 7pm. B. Dudko said that he's a little more positive about The Visitor Center at The Callicoon Depot than he was before with discussions from that meeting. Bernitt asked how many years the current station has been there. He used to pack newspapers at that station in the 1950's and doesn't remember anything happening to the depot after that. Ramie said she wasn't sure what years the two prior versions of the depot where. The 1896 date seemed to be inconclusive with some debate among historians. They have consulted multiple sources to find out the actual date of the station as it is now. B. Dudko replied somewhere between 1896-1900, but he could find out. Henry asked if they checked with the railroad. B. Dudko said it's hard to get information from that far back and that Norfolk Southern owns the line and leases it to the Central New York Railroad, who runs the NY, Susquehanna Western lines, so there's a lot of sources to check with.

9/26 Upper Delaware Watershed Plan SWOT: Ramie has been attending these meetings that are held on the 4th Tuesdays of the month. They had a SWOT analysis, which stands for Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats. This was a two-hour session by Zoom with breakout rooms within the Zoom structure. She led a Recreation breakout room with other topics being Water Quality, Habitat and Flooding. The session Ramie led had Heather Jacksy from Sullivan County Planning, Town of Thompson Supervisor Bill Rieber, Lindsey Kurnath from NPS, Chris Van Maaren from NYS DEC Region 4 and Sherri Resti Thomas from FUDR in attendance. The analyses from all four groups are being compiled and they were sent out to people who participated and who didn't to look it over by October 6th in order to add in any additional ideas. It will then be distributed.

The next meeting would have been October 24th, but since that is when FUDR is holding its "Water, Water Everywhere" conference so they will reschedule or hold off until November. At the next meeting they will look at the results from the SWOT analysis and work further on developing the Action Agenda which has to be to the DEC for approval by April 1, 2024.

Coincidentally, FUDR has released the Upper Delaware River Tailwaters Recreation Plan. This is a new project they did with Shepstone Management Company. The subtitle is: Improving Trout Habitat, River Access and

Recreation in the Upper Delaware River Watershed. It was completed in January. Their geographic description of the tailwaters is confined to the Towns or Townships of Deposit, Colchester, Scott, Hancock, Buckingham and Manchester. They did a landowner survey and then reached out to organizations including the UDC for feedback. She will send the report to the committee. G. Dudko asked Padua if he fishes that far up. Padua said he fished the West Branch to Hancock and the Upper East Branch. He commented the tailwater fishery is a thing all the way to Callicoon; it just depends on how you look at it. If there were higher releases out of both of the dams on a regular basis, the tailwater fishery would extend even further and the water would be much colder.

9/27 D&H Board of Trustees Meeting: The minutes were included in the packet. Ramie said these meetings take place every 4th Wednesdays in March, June, September and January. Those are the months that proceed the full D&H Transportation Heritage Council meetings, with the next being Wednesday, October 25th in Wurtsboro. The trustees set the agendas for the full council meetings and work on other issues. Since the DHTHC became a 501(c)3 organization the organization is eligible to take in donations and it will help with fundraising for applications and grants. They discussed what needs are out there as well as whether there would be a fall bus tour like the one they did in May of one section of the canal. It depends on the time of year, how much of the canal route you can see through the trees. They are still waiting for the NPS to review the application that was submitted to extend the National Register listing, which is being updated.

They hope to work through Congressman Pat Ryan's office to name the D&H Canal and Gravity Railroad as a National Historic Trail. That would bring some additional prestige and recognition as a nationally significant entity. There is language for the legislation that is being circulated to see if there is any negative pushback; otherwise, it will be pursued through Congress.

200th D&H Anniversary events are taking place over a 5-year period, with milestones to be recognized throughout the canal's history. They are putting together a calendar of the most significant events that could be reenacted, recreated or celebrated so that communities and organizations can get involved.

9/28-9/29 Delaware River Watershed Forum: Engelhardt attended this forum organized by the Coalition for the Delaware Watershed and included notes in the packet. She commented that she had a good time and met a lot of people, explaining what the UDC is to several people. Besides herself there were a few people from FUDR and Meg McGuire with *Delaware Currents* there. The Upper Delaware is not well represented, so she was happy to be there to remind people we are still here and that New York is part of the watershed. There were two days of presentations. There were plenary sessions held in the hotel ballrooms that were mostly inspirational. There was a presentation on State Revolving Funds, which is where a lot of the money is coming from for Clean Water projects in the watershed. She commented that with the small sessions there was a lot of interaction and discussion, and most of the people at the conference were with conservation and non-profit groups. There was frustration that a lot of the funds are matching and it's hard to get a match, and that sometimes the project needs to already be designed which costs money to get to that point. A lot of the projects are wastewater treatment projects and there isn't a lot of public wastewaters in rural areas. The money is going to more urban areas since that's where the problems are. When the map was displayed of where the projects were, in Pennsylvania there was nothing in Pike County and a couple in Wayne County since they are less populated areas.

She went on a field trip the first day. It was an interpretive hike of the first State National Historical Park. That is one of the newer National Park Service Units, and like our area it is a Park Service Unit, not a National Park. It is the first and only National Park unit in the State of Delaware. She said it's not privately held like the Upper Delaware is, however a lot of their land is leased. They were leasing an area to farm grass, but after 2020 they needed more parking with more visitors, so they are using the meadowland for parking. The Superintendent of that park led the tour although he had just had foot surgery. There was a dinner the first night with the second day going until 2:30pm and she attended a session on "Stories and Strategies: Communicating Issues Facing the Watershed" which was mainly for communication staff for various non-profits. They talked about how to tell the story of a trail, places that are preserved, how to get people's attention, etc. There was an exercise where they talked about messaging that would follow a hurricane with a lot of flooding. A couple days after the event is more directing people on social media to resources and a year later using the opportunity of the anniversary to educate on why flooding happens. Theoretically, politicians may have gotten elected from their reaction to that event.

The last session she attended was led by Mark Zakutansky from the Appalachian Mountain Club (who had accepted the Recreation Achievement Award at the 35th Annual UDC Banquet on behalf of the Sojourn Steering Committee.) He talked about 30x30, which is the idea of protecting 30% of land and ocean globally by the year 2030 to be set aside in perpetuity. That is necessary to make sure that as a population we can continue moving forward. He mostly talked about the data on this and how it used to be harder to figure out how much is currently preserved, where it is and how valuable it is. Because of GIS there is a lot more data and the Appalachian Mountain Club has a team of science and GIS professionals who study the data that's out there and combine it with location data to figure out where exactly we are and what the trends are. For example, the watershed in New Jersey is almost at 30% at 29.6% preserved, however the trend has flatlined since New Jersey is almost at maximum build out being a smaller state. Equity in urban areas is higher value and cost more to preserve per acre and can get a lot more "bang for your buck" in rural areas. The money issue in the past few years, especially with the infrastructure plan that President Biden passed in 2021, shows theoretically a lot of money out there but it's a problem to actually develop projects that can use it. It's also proven to be difficult to get projects approved with very little staffing at the government agencies.

Henry asked what the 30x30 plan is currently at overall. Engelhardt said it's 14% within the U.S., she isn't sure globally. Henry said it's a nice goal to have by 2030 but thinks it's unlikely. Do they think it will actually happen? Engelhardt said she's not sure. Henry asked if all the land they are talking about in conservation easements? Engelhardt said they are including state game lands and state forests. B. Dudko asked Engelhardt if she felt like it was worth it for her to go on behalf of the UDC. She said yes, she got a lot out of it and feels that since the Upper Delaware wasn't well represented, it's important for the UDC to show presence there.

9/29 NPS Water Safety Meeting with CUA Partners: Driscoll took notes for the NPS during this meeting which are included in the packet. She reported that Rick Lander with Lander's River Trips commented that during 2020 because of COVID, his livery was busier since people were able to work from home with more flexibility and since then, guest numbers have gone down.

Rocco Baldassari from Kittatinny Campgrounds said on Thursday, August 14th the water level was at 4ft and upon waking up Friday morning they had been alerted the level rose to 9ft. He said that kind of level jump significantly altered business for peak-season Saturday. He asked if there was a release from one of the dams and if there was a way liveries could be notified ahead of time. Peterec said the jump in water level was a surprise to NPS as well and there is no way to predict those releases. G. Dudko commented that surprises her. There should be a better system for alerting people. Brookfield makes the decision on when they are making the releases with no notice. G. Dudko said that with releases and rainfall there should be a way to alert people. Driscoll said there is a notification system in place, but it's hard to predict if the dam releases. Henry said for the prediction to be 5ft and then goes to 9ft, a dam must have broken. Driscoll said she thought it was only predicted that it would hit 9ft; she's not sure if it actually hit that high. Although a few of the liveries said some of their equipment was under water since they had no notice. Henry said you have to watch the gauges. During the meeting, Dan Corrigan from Northeast Wilderness Experience said he watches the Advanced Hydrologic Prediction site and Henry commented he feels that's usually about 90% accurate. Padua said there was a lot of discussion about the Lackawaxen River in the notes. The rain events in our area are isolated a lot of the time, and it's up to the business to keep track of water levels and predictions. If you operate below the Lackawaxen River, you should be looking at the gauge at Rowland, USGS websites and Brookfield's website every day. If it rains in Honesdale, but not in Roscoe, the Lackawaxen River will blow out and the rest of the Delaware River will be normal until the Roebing Bridge. He agreed with Henry that the projections are generally close and then often the river goes higher than the projections. Being in the business, you have to pay attention. Henry suggested reaching out to the NPS to work together on a letter to Brookfield to give us information about releases. If you release water on the river and you don't alert people properly, it's dangerous. G. Dudko commented that there should be some sort of responsibility on Brookfield. Henry said you can go on their website to see when releases are, but they should make sure they don't spring that on people. Padua said the Cannonsville Reservoir particularly will cut water to a dangerously low level and it happens on the Lackawaxen River. He knows some guides that, because of the cuts from Brookfield, can't operate more than 50% of the summer. He knows that FUDR and the UDC have been fighting for the West Branch to have higher releases in general and if you look at the Flow and Storage Report now it's at 160 cfs right now. It goes both ways with flooding and drying the rivers out. If someone was to launch their boat with 500 cfs and Brookfield turns it off in August then they are at 100 cfs. Padua had recently run into a rafter who had that happen to him over the summer at the Roebing Bridge. He would also appreciate better predictions or alerts as well. Peckham said it all comes down to Montague. If they need the water and it's coming from the Lackawaxen or Wallenpaupack they will cut off the

upper portion. Montague determines the upper tailwater releases. All New York City is concerned with is getting water to Montague. They prefer water be taken from below from cold water fisheries, Lackawaxen River down. Henry said the Rivermaster knows what's being released by Brookfield, so someone knows, but the public doesn't know. It would behoove us as the UDC with the NPS to find out from Brookfield if they are reporting this to the NPS to make alerts. It's a safety issue.

Rick Lander commented on the Skinners Falls Bridge at the meeting. He thinks it's an eye sore, starting with a giant pile of dirt with a bunch of misleading signs and now a mesh fence. His guests can't walk or bike across the bridge anymore. They still don't know if they are going to build a new bridge or repair the current one. Keith Winslow from NPS said engineers had said people are not supposed to be on the bridge at all due to safety. Lander suggested making the bridge look nice again, to make it a scenic bridge and get rid of the irrelevant signage.

Baldassari from Kittatinny said there is a group of retired U.S. Marshalls that work their way down the river goose hunting, shooting above boaters' heads and retrieving the geese off private property. Kittatinny had guests upset that there were people shooting toward them. Winslow said they would look into regulating hunting on the river during cold weather outside of the livery operating season. Henry said the RMP restricts the NPS from making any rules or regulations against hunting. He said this has also been an issue. It's a fall migratory fowl goose season. It would be extremely difficult to change the season. It's hunting, not people just shooting over people's heads. Driscoll said that people coming to visit the river just aren't used to it.

At the meeting, Peterec asked everyone to think about any signage needed. It's a good time to brainstorm before the next season. They are ordering bilingual "no glass" signs, with English and Spanish on either side. They will also try to incorporate "no glass" signs in local grocery and convenience stores, to convince people to rethink their containers.

Winslow asked if new and old employees are being trained in water safety and if anyone would like Rangers to come to the water safety trainings. Rick Lander said they have the water safety lecture taped to their clipboards. There has been a lot more non-English speaking guests visiting. Amy Salvia from Indian Head Canoes asked if they could have signs made with key points of the water safety speech in other languages that they could point to during the speech. They also mentioned in the water safety video, it begins with a clip of an infant lifejacket. Liveries do not allow infants on the river. That message may be misleading and spark some arguments with guests if they post the video directly on their website. Peterec and Babus said they would look into it.

For NPS, Kurnath introduced Tara Harbert who will be filling in for Debby Seaboldt this fall. Harbert will work mostly remote in Ohio, making 3 or 4 trips out here. There will be changes at the national level with the CUA program starting in 2025. They will be moving to an online application. The application fee will go from \$100 to \$300. They are also looking into other fees known now as the administrative and monitoring fee that haven't been updated since 2017.

B. Dudko said he thought the conversation from the notes about eel traps was interesting. Driscoll said Winslow told everyone the ones that exist are grandfathered in. G. Dudko said she thinks the liveries could do a better job educating guests on the river about them, instead of being negative. Eel trapping is a part of the culture and history of the Delaware River. Driscoll said Peterec let them know to tell guests to stay away from the eel traps.

Henry asked what NPS meant about launching from non-designated access sites. In the notes it says you cannot launch from the eagle observatory. He asked which one. Driscoll said she thinks they were talking about the one in Highland on Route 97. He asked if there is a sign at the observatory that says there is no launching allowed? If it's private property, NPS can't enforce launching. He's never heard any regulation from the NPS or in the State of NY that says you can't launch a vessel anywhere. There are trespassing concerns, but unless most of the eagle observatory areas have signage that say you cannot launch. It's an area that lures people in. Driscoll said she thinks there may be a sign, but she isn't sure. Henry said he'd like to know where non-designated sites are; it's confusing information. He also commented that the buoys that NPS used to put out were very difficult to install and maintain. They would often float down the river and someone would have to retrieve them. Driscoll said Susie Kaspar with NPS told the liveries asking about the buoys the same thing.

10/12 DRBC Water Management Advisory Council Meeting: Ramie attends this meeting three times a year. There is a summary included in the handouts. They give a more comprehensive hydrological report. They mentioned how much precipitation had been measured in the whole river basin above Trenton which so far this year is 39.4 inches, 2 inches above normal but within normal ranges. They went through the reservoir storage and talked about the Delaware Aqueduct shutdown. They gave other statistics on where the salt line is currently, which is on target for this time of year, as well as groundwater measurements and drought watch. The fall weather prediction is warmer than normal with slightly above normal precipitation. They went to the Farmer's Almanac for the winter prediction, saying it will be "frosty, flakey and slushy". Henry asked if they really went to the Farmer's Almanac for information. Ramie said yes, Amy Shallcross said she likes to check multiple sources. G. Dudko asked if it's late to have no frost yet, it seems like this area usually has at least one frost by now. Henry said it fluctuates.

Ramie said they reported on plumbing codes. Each state sets standards for flow rates on toilets, shower heads and bathroom faucets. They compare them against the EPA's Water Sense program. The benefits are that they are important for water conservation, saving energy, chemicals, residual waste, etc. This is something they do annually but haven't reported to the Water Management Advisory Council regularly, and now decided this will be an annual report. They had a chart with the different numbers for each state and entity to show how they compare.

The DRBC is completing a 10-year Water Audit Report. This is the most comprehensive assessment the DRBC has done at this scale to see where water losses are occurring in the system. Currently they have the report out for review internally and externally and will incorporate comments they get back from it. They expect to publish the report in either November or December of this year. They are scheduled to present findings at the North American Water Loss Conference in Colorado on December 6th. Once the final report is back it will go to WMAC to review it.

Being the last meeting for this year, they scheduled the 2024 WMAC dates of 2/14, 6/26, and 10/16 from 10am-12pm.

Other: Henry said that he'd like an update on the ramp at Ten Mile River (TMR). It has to be part of the DEC Access Plan, the UDC was told DEC must formulate a plan and the ramp has to be part of that plan. It could happen in 4 years if it takes that long for The Conservation Fund to transfer the TMR property to the state, but if it's not on the plan the likelihood of it happening is 0. Ramie said she will reach out to Ryan Coulter from the DEC via email to request that he provide an update at the full council meeting at November.

Ramie said after the September 19 WU/RM Committee meeting at which Christine Foland from the Lackawaxen River Conservancy (LRC) gave a presentation on the Lackawaxen River Wild and Scenic River proposal, she was contacted by a freelance writer from *Delaware Currents*, Cloey Callahan. She wanted to speak to her about the presentation. Ramie sent Callahan the minutes from that meeting that included all of the facts and figures. Ramie told Callahan not to use the UDC as her primary source of information to which Callahan said she had already spoken to the officers of the LRC. Callahan just wanted to make sure she had all the information and to see what reactions were to the proposal. Callahan asked Ramie if the UDC supported the Lackawaxen River being designated as a Wild and Scenic River. Ramie said the UDC wasn't asked what our position was yet, we are simply interested in it and have been. She didn't see any reason why the UDC would oppose the LRC moving forward. The committee members gave some insight on the length of time it could take to get the designation and that public buy-in is crucial. The LRC needs to have a more formal meeting with their congressional representative. Ramie will share the article when it comes out. Maybe the LRC has made some more progress since the presentation. Henry said other than hearing the presentation last month, he hasn't heard or read anything about LRC trying to get the designation. The members told Foland that they need to get the public involved. He said maybe this article by Callahan will get some attention. Peckham said he thinks if the LRC wants to try to get the Wild and Scenic River designation, it isn't the UDC's business and doesn't concern us. It's up to the townships that are along the Lackawaxen River. Why would they need the UDC to endorse it? Ramie said no one has asked us to endorse anything and G. Dudko added if they do ask for our endorsement, the UDC can discuss it then. Ramie said that if they get to a later stage, they will probably want a broad demonstration of support, so it will probably come to the UDC at some point. Henry said the people along the river need to have input way before the UDC.

New Business:

Water, Water Everywhere Presentation: Ramie reminded everyone that the UDC will be giving a presentation about the Upper Delaware in general in conjunction with the National Parks Conservation Association represented

by Tim Leonard and Lindsey Kurnath with the National Park Service. This 2-day conference will be next Tuesday and Wednesday (10/24-10/25). They will have a half hour to give 3 PowerPoint presentations and answer any questions so Ramie will have around 7 minutes to explain who the UDC is. We had four individuals from the UDC sign up to participate: Engelhardt, Steve Adams, Peckham and herself. We will report on this conference at next month's meeting.

Delaware River Flow & Storage Report: Engelhardt commented it looked like water was drawn down from the F.E. Walter Reservoir again. Henry said they do that every fall. B. Dudko asked where that was and Henry said in Pennsylvania by Lehigh. Padua said that Lackawaxen at Rowlands is coming in at 1,540 cubic feet per second. The river almost doubles at Lackawaxen right now and will for the next few weeks. You are seeing extremely low water conditions from Hancock to Lackawaxen and from Lackawaxen it's going to above average flow. The Lackawaxen River is almost as big as the Delaware River right now because of the release from Brookfield. B. Dudko asked if they are making power. Padua said they must be; that's what their business is. Henry asked what the normal release is at Rowlands. Padua said without a release, between 2-500 and with the release its usually over 1,000 cfs.

Engelhardt commented that the Delaware Aqueduct shutdown started on Monday (10/16) as far as we know. The DRBC forwarded a press release about it. Ramie said there were some interesting photos posted along with the release that we added to the UDC Facebook page (with rights to NYC DEP) showing the inside of the tunnel.

Other: Ramie asked Henry if he wanted the letter to Brookfield from NPS and UDC to be an action item or if Driscoll should bring it back to the Water Safety Committee. Henry thinks we shouldn't wait but should start by asking Kurnath about writing a letter that the UDC could support. Padua agreed. Ramie will add it to the action items and reach out to Kurnath.

Public Comment: None.

Adjourn: A Motion by Jeffer seconded by Bernitt to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m. was carried.

Meeting minutes prepared by Stephanie Driscoll, 10/19/2023