

Upper Delaware Council  
**OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**Jan. 25, 2011**

Committee Members Present: Keesler, Rando, Roeder, Richardson, Niflot, Rajsz,  
Peckham  
NPS Partner: Hahn  
Staff: Douglass, Soete, Coney, Ramie  
Guests: None

The UDC's Operations Committee held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 25, 2011. Committee Chairperson Roeder called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. A motion by Rajsz seconded by Rando to approve the Dec. 21, 2010 meeting minutes was carried. There was no public comment on the agenda.

**Elections:** This was the first meeting of calendar year 2011 and elections of committee chairperson and vice-chairperson were held. Current chairperson Roeder called for nominations. Nominations were made for Dolores Keesler as committee chairperson and Scott Rando as vice-chairperson. There were no other nominations. Keesler and Rando were elected by voice vote. Keesler conducted the remainder of the meeting.

**PR/Fund Raising Specialist's Report:** Ramie reviewed her written report handed out. Action items included: Picking the date of Sunday, April 17 for the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual UDC awards ceremony. The committee made suggestions for a venue and keynote speaker and Ramie will begin planning the event. Also, the committee approved the date of Aug. 7 for the annual family raft trip on the Upper Delaware. Usually a 10-mile float trip is planned through a local canoe livery. Ramie will begin planning the event at the appropriate time. Ramie reported she changed the format of the fiscal year 2010 UDC annual report and it has been posted on the Council's website. The report provides a more detailed outline of the Council's activities. Anyone interested in accessing this report should go to the UDC's website at [www.upperdelawarecouncil.org](http://www.upperdelawarecouncil.org).

Ramie reported she is still waiting to receive an executed contract from NYS for grant TM09050. This funding is for the New York town members. Ramie issued a news release announcing the 2011 members of the Upper Delaware Council. It is also posted on the website. New members will receive orientation kits and the outgoing members have been officially thanked for their service to the Council. The town and township members of the Council appoint their representatives and alternates to the Council at their municipal reorganizational meetings in January. New alternates have come on the Council from Hancock and Highland.

Ramie's duties for the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway were listed in her report for the members to read at their leisure.

The Council had a booth at the Jan. 15 Narrowsburg EagleFest event. The committee had suggested doing something as a fund raiser at the booth. Soete donated an excellent 11 x 17 eagles in flight with landscape photograph which was framed and raffled off by purchasing tickets. A small donation box was also available at the booth. The winner of the photograph was Carter Stark of Montvale, NJ. Mr. Stark has been attending the EagleFest for the last five years and was excited to win the print. Ramie reported all-in-all they raised \$99. She mentioned trying a similar fund-raising activity at the annual Narrowsburg RiverFest in July.

Letters of introduction to the newly elected political representatives for the river corridor are being designed to let them know about the UDC and its congressional mandate.

**Executive Director's Report:** Douglass reviewed his written report handed out. The annual report is completed. He handed out a draft listing of the newly elected political reps. The Government Officials Liaison Subcommittee would like to meet with Marino, Hayworth, Schumer and Gillibrand. A Friday meeting date will be researched with the reps aides by Douglass.

**Old Business** None

**New Business**

**Summary of pending bills / financial statements:** The committee reviewed the summary of pending bills. There was discussion of the solid waste user fee of \$300 and if that could be appealed. Sullivan County has instituted this fee for all commercial/residential properties, whether they are non-profit or not. A motion by Richardson seconded by Rajsz to approve the bills for payment was carried. The committee requested Douglass to research how much savings were realized in fuel usage with the newly installed furnace. The financial statements for period ended Dec. 31, 2010 were handed out for review.

**Federal Funding:** Coney reported the first half of the December advance was received; the remaining balance is still due. We're still operating under a congressional continuing resolution until March.

**IRS Standard Mileage Rate Change:** The 2011 IRS standard mileage rate is 51 cents. The UDC mileage rate will increase to this amount per policy.

**Request for travel to meetings:** The committee discussed travel costs to attend the DRBC public hearings regarding the DRBC draft natural gas regulations to be held Feb. 22 in Honesdale and Liberty. Ramie said she would like to attend the afternoon session in Honesdale for an article for the UDC newsletter. Peckham would be attending the evening session and Richardson would be attending the evening session in Liberty. Keesler asked that staff carpool if they can. Staff would be attending the afternoon session since the Operations and Project Review committees would have their regular monthly meetings that evening. That brought up the fact that the committees might not be able to seat a quorum for the meetings. The committee decided to move the monthly committee meetings to Wednesday, Feb. 23 at the same times not only to enable seating a quorum but to allow discussion on a comment letter going to DRBC in order to meet the comment deadline of March 16. Soete commented that maybe the Project Review Committee might want to hold a work session as well so he could obtain feedback from the committee for the comment letter.

**Public Comment** None

**Adjournment** A motion by Rajsz seconded by Roeder to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 p.m. was carried.

Carol Coney, Office Manager