

Upper Delaware Council
PROJECT REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
August 26, 2014

Committee Members Present:	Larry Richardson, Debra Conway, Jeff Dexter, Nadia Rajsz (6:39p.m.), George Fluhr, Andy Boyar, Harold Roeder, Jr., Fred Peckham, David Dean
Committee Members Absent:	None
NPS Partner:	Carla Hahn
Staff:	Laurie Ramie, Cindy Odell, Travis O'Dell
Guests:	None

The UDC's Project Review Committee held its monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 26, 2014 at the Council office in Narrowsburg, NY. Chairman Larry Richardson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

A motion to approve the July 22 meeting minutes was made by Boyar, seconded by Fluhr and carried with Richardson abstaining. There was no public comment on the agenda.

Discussion Items Report

Project Review Update

Town of Tusten: O'Dell reported that he was contacted by Narrowsburg Fire Department member Craig Burkle, who explained plans to explore a solar project on the field in Narrowsburg near Lander's Campground. The tentative project would provide power to the fire department, the convenience store, and the Whistle Stop Café in Narrowsburg. O'Dell said he referred Mr. Burkle to the Town's Code Enforcement Officer and Planning Board Chairman and explained that any such project would first have to be presented to the local officials in the Town. Peckham said he plans to bring such projects up when he meets with the consultant to discuss the River Management Plan. Conway asked if this is the Town's solar project. O'Dell told her the town's solar project will be located at the Town's highway barn south on Route 97. A brief discussion about alternate energy sources took place.

Town of Tusten: O'Dell said on August 18th a public hearing regarding a sawmill operation on Route 97 was held. Big Dog Sawmill is located within the river Corridor in the Town's Recreational River zone. The zone requires a 3 acre lot size for any development; the current lot size is just two acres and therefore will require an area variance from the Town Zoning Board of Appeals before applying for a special use permit. Furthermore to apply for a special use permit, a full-detailed site plan must be submitted. The issue was tabled until required materials are submitted. According to the Land and Water Use Guidelines, sawmills are appropriate Special Uses within both scenic and recreational sections of the river corridor with a minimum lot size of two acres.

Town of Lumberland: O'Dell stated that a draft letter is included in members' packets addressed to consulting engineer, Glenn Smith, regarding a proposed project at Knights Eddy Campsites. As a special use application, the project was reviewed as per the Project Review Workbook section for river-related recreational use projects. That review found no significant threats to the river corridor or discrepancy with the River Management Plan. However, it is suggested that the recommendations from the state and local permitting authorities be incorporated into the project. O'Dell referred members to the "Review Criterion #3 – River-related recreational use projects" handout in their packets. He asked them for their interpretation of C.2b A – "Requiring a minimum of two acres for any new river-related recreational facility used for the parking of vehicles or the erection of any structures." Members said that their interpretation is that any river-related recreational use project requires a minimum of two acres. O'Dell noted that the letter will be taken up during New Business.

Town of Lumberland: O'Dell said he received a preliminary request for offering comments on a parking study in Pond Eddy. Staff from Sullivan County Department of Planning and Environmental Management, who is facilitating the study, stated that the project is in its early stages and when everyone's roles are established there will be more information regarding the study and the UDC will have the opportunity to comment. Discussion took place about the location of this potential parking area.

Port Jervis, N.Y.: O'Dell reported that according to an article in the July 28, 2014 *Times Herald Record*, the City of Port Jervis submitted revised plans for a whitewater park on the Delaware River following a discovery of the federally endangered Dwarf Wedgemussel. To avoid harming the mussel beds, the park will be reduced by 200-300 feet, eliminating the portion which was designed to be used for Olympic kayaking trials. Rajsز says that the Mayor of Port Jervis will be attending the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway meeting on October 27 to speak about the proposed whitewater park.

UDC Project Review Municipal Presentations: O'Dell stated that on September 3, Sullivan Renaissance is hosting a program at the Cochecton Town Hall on "Preserving Scenic Views". O'Dell said he will present on how the UDC Design Guidelines can be used to meet Zoning Requirements. The presentation will focus around the Land and Water Use Guidelines and the Design Handbook. A press release and seminar flyer were both included in members' packets.

O'Dell said he has been coordinating with Dorene Warner of W Design on the update of the Design Handbook. O'Dell asked members if they wanted to stay with the horizontal layout of the book or change to a vertical layout which would be less expensive to print. Members agreed on the vertical layout.

Upper Delaware Mapping: O'Dell noted that Shannon Thol, a student in Penn State's GIS Master's Program, has proposed to create GIS maps of the Upper Delaware, complete with zoning information as her final thesis. The ultimate goal is mapping and evaluating land cover and land use change over time. She will be analyzing the time period from 1986-2014. The final project would be made available to Towns/Townships and Counties. A conference call between NPS staff, UDC staff, and Thol on August 21st introduced the project and identified the next step of reorganizing the Upper Delaware GIS consortium in an effort to gather necessary data to proceed with the project. Rajsز questioned if the Park Service already has GIS maps and asked if Thol is reinventing the wheel. Hahn said she has been working to gather all GIS data together over the last several years and spoke of the layers of mapping that already exist along with additional information. She said all this information exists, but is not all pulled together. She added that Upper Delaware will soon be doing their own GIS work with Jamie Myers leading this effort. Thol will be instrumental in pulling all of this information together.

TAG Update: O'Dell reported that quite a few applications for FY 2015 projects have been submitted. The deadline to submit applications is August 29, 2014 by 4:30 p.m.

O'Dell reported that all of the final pending FY 2014 projects were submitted by the August 22 deadline and to the specifications outlined in the respective contracts.

Dexter noted that in the past, GIS projects required fixed points. He questioned what the fixed points are on the federal corridor, noting it has never been surveyed. Hahn said she has explained in the past how the maps in the River Management Plan were drawn. That information was taken and entered into GIS as references, she explained.

New Business

Approval of TAG 2014-03: Town of Tusten, Create Comprehensive Emergency Plan: A motion to approve the Town of Tusten's TAG project was made by Rajsز, seconded by Boyar and carried with Dean abstaining.

Approval of TAG 2014-07: Shohola Township, Produce DVD and Index Pictorial Library to Preserve History of Shohola: A motion to approve the Shohola Township's TAG project was made by Rajsز, seconded by Boyar and carried with Dean abstaining.

Approval of TAG 2014-06: Town of Lumberland, Provide Estimate of Tourism Visitation to the Upper Delaware Scenic Byway: A motion to approve the Town of Lumberland's TAG project was made by Rajsز, seconded by Boyar and carried with Dean abstaining.

Approval of TAG 2014-09: Town of Hancock, Complete Economic Study on Improved Releases from NYC Water Supply System: A motion to approve the Town of Hancock's TAG project was made by Rajsز, seconded by Boyar and carried with Dean abstaining.

Draft Letter to Glenn Smith: Knights Eddy Campsites, Town of Lumberland: Members read the draft letter provided in their packets. The project was discussed. O'Dell noted that the letter "urges that appropriate measures for this project be taken regarding the recommendations of the involved federal, state and local agencies, including but not limited, to New York State Department of Health, the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, and the Army Corps of Engineers." Hahn noted that under Section 7 of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, if soil is being drawn in, the Park Service should review a project for its impacts on flows and there is nowhere in the River Management Plan where there is a cross reference to this requirement. She asked that the National Park Service be copied on the letter. Rajsز stated that this campsite was never permitted by the Town of Lumberland. This project is now in front of the Planning Board, she added. After brief discussion, a motion to send the letter, amended to add National Park Service to the cc list, was made by Roeder, seconded by Peckham and carried. The history of the campsite was discussed.

Other: None

Old Business

Use of 1988 Project Review Workbook: Members agreed to table review of the Workbook until next month.

Other: None

Public Comment: None

Adjournment: A motion by Peckham, seconded by Rajsز to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m. was carried unanimously.

Minutes prepared by Cindy Odell, 8/28/14