

The July 12, 2018 SCRIP meeting was called to order at 9:12 AM at Greenhouse Park by Len Lichvar. The meeting was also attended by Joe Gorden, Melissa Reckner, James Eckenrode, Jr., Melissa Reckner, Bill Strosnider, Adam Cotchen, and Pam Milavec. Stefan Long joined the meeting in progress.

Cotchen/Makuchan made a motion to accept the May meeting minutes as submitted. All in favor. Motion carried. Reckner said SCRIP has 39 dues-paying members so far this year and she has 20 reminders to send out for the balance of the year. She shared a letter from the Jackson Township Water Authority, which was looking for a letter of support for a Mariner East grant proposal, but she picked it up after the due date.

Eckenrode reported that SCRIP has \$1,408.74 in its checking account. Reckner presented a bill for \$62 for our yearly PO Box Rental and \$17 for stamps. As these are pre-approved bills, no motion was needed.

Stonycreek River

Reckner questioned if there was any more info other than what was in the newspaper regarding the oil spill in Davidsville. There wasn't.

Lichvar said a knotweed cutting will be done along Soap Hollow Run at Greenhouse Park on July 22 at 9 AM. Volunteers are needed! The District did apply for the permit to do the stream improvement work.

Lichvar said the Oven Run Site E project is on hold at the moment. Site A's intake is almost done. A DCED grant was submitted for improvements to the other systems. A discussion of Oven Run Site B followed. Milavec and Strosnider will follow up with some additional information on B and its impact on Oven Run and, more importantly, Stonycreek.

The Somerset Conservation District is submitting a Growing Greener grant application for Phase II of the Lambert's Run AMD project.

Lichvar said the Jenners AMD treatment system rehab by Rosebud is on hold due to litigation.

Paint Creek

Reckner said she is submitting a Growing Greener grant application to implement Phases 1 and 2A of the Upper Babcock Creek Restoration Plan. She said a triaxle of limestone was placed in Babcock and adjoining discharges this spring and another will be placed this summer, with the latter courtesy a Laurel Highlands Conservation Landscape Initiative grant she secured.

Shade Creek

Reckner said Hutchinson is working on a Growing Greener grant for additional funds for

the Coal Run AMD treatment system.

Center for Watershed Research and Service

Strosnider said the Center for Watershed Research and Service continues to work on the same projects. He said Eckenrode is an Associate Director of the Center and having him on board increases their capacity. They continue to look at co-treating sewage and AMD in Westmoreland County. Strosnider said the Reitz #1 system is a good example of utilizing and paying a local (Central City) SFU student to complete O&M at the system.

A discussion of boating safety followed in response to the drowning at the Que.

Lichvar shared a picture of the dry kayak/canoe launch at the Que Public Recreation Area.

Little Conemaugh River

Reckner asked for details about the economic impact study of the Little Conemaugh River. No one knew much about it. Strosnider said TetraTech might be spearheading that. She questioned the geographic scope of the Laurel Highlands economic study. It was originally going to include all the KC, but now seems to only be the lower half. There may be potential for collaboration.

Education Committee

Makuchan said the deadline for submissions to the next newsletter would be August 24. Makuchan then led a discussion on the SCRIP Scholarship.

Event Committee

Gorden thanked Lichvar, Reckner, and Makuchan for sharing info on PFBC's first official Intro to Kayak Fishing event scheduled for July 25. He said 17 of the 25 available spots are filled and that Lichvar had an article about it published in the Daily American. He'll do one for the Tribune-Democrat soon.

Gorden said the CCCD/BCC Intro to River Kayaking event went well yesterday. There is a lot of interest in these kinds of activities.

Kiski-Conemaugh Stream Team

Reckner said this spring, she coordinated 7 Trout in the Classroom Release Days with 480 students, 18 partnering organizations, and 49 individual volunteers participating. She completed the final grant reports for the State of the Watershed! She said the Stream Team's summer sampling round is July 15-25. Reckner shared that she is now a SQI Board Member and said Rob McCombie has replaced Skip Picking as president. SQI has been working on

Phase II of Whitewater Park and the mountain bike trail around the Que. Milavec commented that these are going to be really nice trails. Reckner said that while the ticket with the winning number for their boat/cash raffle was not sold, legally, they are bound to award a prize, so ticket stubs will be put in a bucket and a winner drawn.

Website

Reckner shared Dutch's proposal to make SCRIP's website more mobile friendly. It would cost about \$1500. Reckner will share Dutch's email with the details with the board of directors for consideration.

Sunoco Mariner Pipeline

Cotchen said a lot of grants were submitted for the Mariner East funds.

Old Business

Lichvar shared a picture of the Que Creek Tailwater Fishery sign with bullet holes in it.

Lichvar said the legislature has agreed to discuss giving PFBC a license fee increase in their next session, so PFBC tabled the \$2 million cuts that were proposed. PFBC will begin raising mussels at the Union City hatchery with the goal to start restoration of mussels in such streams as Dunkard Creek, which was severely polluted years ago by a “fracking” incident.

New Business

Reckner announced that she got a new job! She will be working for the Brandywine Conservancy. The BC is based in Chadds Ford, and was bequeathed Richard Scaife's property, called Penguin Court, in Laughlintown. She will be serving as Penguin Court's Program Manager, working to offer workshops, research opportunities, and other programs for the benefit of the community and preservation of the property and surrounding landscape. Congratulations to her!

Next Meeting

Next meeting: September 27 at 3 PM at Saint Francis University in Loretto.
Post-meeting activities at Coal Country Brewery.

Meeting adjourned 11:13 AM.

Minutes by Reckner.