

COOKS CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
MEETING AGENDA
February 27, 2025

In Attendance – Scott, Travis, Jim, Sarah, and Lois. Also, Paige Strasko, Northampton County Watershed Specialist, who has offered to assist in projects and technical help; Eric Crustaf, member of CCWA and Delaware Forks of the Delaware who studies fish; Michael Loomis, also interested in fish.

Approval of Minutes –The January Board meeting minutes were approved with a motion by Jim/Sarah; all in favor, 6-0.

Mail- No mail.

Treasurer's Report – February's Treasurer's report was approved 6-0 with a motion by Travis/Eric. A \$250 check from Bright Funds of Oakland, CA was deposited.

Pay Bills –None

Committee Reports

Newsletter – Lois –The Spring 2025 newsletter has a deadline of May 1st for articles. Scott will revise the hydrographs, if necessary, as there is a question if they are correct.

Social media – all –Travis is working on more content – cleanup, hydrographs, videos and reels are the trend. Forks of the Delaware chapter will post, Alyson from Delaware Greenway Partnership, and Paige will also advertise if given the information.

Membership – Scott –Nothing changed.

Watershed Coalition of the Lehigh Valley (WCLV)/Lower Delaware Wild & Scenic (LDW&S)– Jim/Lois–WCLV's Zoom meeting discussed sludge on land and PFAS's, live pussy willow stakes, road salt, TAP talks of which Scott will do the TAP Talk on "Native Plants" in April. LDW&S and the separate expansion study committee meeting (LDESC) will be held later this month, March 27 and next month, April 7. Lois will report on the meetings.

Environmental Monitoring – Scott –The Hydrographs are reporting temperatures, up and water levels, down.

Planning/Ordinances – Scott/Lois- Lois reported a logging permit was issued in Durham Township without a "Forestry Report".

Education /Growing Greener grant– Travis/Scott – Princeton Hydro has got all the data for the Watershed Conservation Plan and now needs to issue a report with conservation recommendations. We then will have a public meeting soliciting comments and will consider areas to fix.

Old Business –

TIC program -Trout in the Classroom – No update.

Peppermint Park Sign – No update.

Kimberton – Our "month of round up" is August and we should plan to set up a poster and offer information on CCWA and joining the Watershed. A trifold pamphlet was suggested. An article should be placed in the May/Spring Newsletter. Visuals for the

August month round up: on every weekend CCWA could present the water model and/or a mini monster table.

Fall Dinner Speaker – October 4 -David Winston has requested confirmation that he will speak 45 minutes at the Fall Dinner. The cost is \$300. Scott will reach out to him. Lois will give Scott David's contact information.

New Business –

Clean Up – April 5 - 9-4PM – A flyer will be generated to go out on March 5th. As usual, breakfast of coffee and donuts with a chili lunch. All directors make chili served in crockpots. Durham Historical Society will do their stretch of Durham Road in the afternoon. The Durham EAC will do Route 611 in the morning. Travis investigated purchasing reflective vests with our logo. Scott/Jim made a motion to purchase 10 Large/X-Large reflective vests with our logo but Scott will check with Lindsay of PennDOT if these vests are permissible rather than the orange vest they provide.

Minnow survey grant -Travis/Eric would like to document a list of species of minnows in Cooks Creek. Are there significant or threatened species? In collecting to document, PADEP approved protocols will be followed. This would be done two times per year at five sample sites. Those sites could include the confluence, Oleksa and Scott properties and near the California Road log cabin. Instead of getting a grant, a motion was made to use \$1,000 to purchase materials for the minnow study. Motion by Scott/Sarah 6-0.

Christmas Tree Planting – CCWA has picked up left over trees that can be placed in the Creek banks to attract/protect/provide structure for all water critters. The trees act as brush deflectors protecting the Creek banks where there has been erosion. Some areas to consider are at Scott's place, Silver Creek, Judy's and Lois's places. One deflector could be a morning's project. Is a permit needed? Trout Unlimited does not get a permit as this is maintenance vs. improvement.

River Valley Waldorf School -30th Anniversary Auction Gallery – April 5 at night – Travis asked whether CCWA would sponsor the school by purchasing 2 tickets at \$250 and possibly net work with the school. A question arouses whether CCWA's By-Laws support such an endeavor? What in Waldorf's educational plan supports "Rivers Conservation"? Are we acting now, does this create a precedent? CCWA needs to be clear why we would sponsor a selected organization. No motion was made.

Adjourn –

Next Board Meeting will be on March 27, 6:30 pm, at the Firehouse.

Respectively submitted by Lois Oleksa.