

Swatara Watershed Association Facebook 2060 Likes & 2124 Followers

Good ideas will stand the test of time. Plan seven generations ahead.

December 1, 2021

In attendance: Mike Adams, Bethany Canner, Jo Ellen Litz, Denny Miller, Jack Stouffer

Treasurer: Gavin revised Charitable Organization Renewal form per State request. Also, Security System payment being researched. Some mail not getting through. Income: \$50 Facebook Network for Good, \$1000 Salem for Bordner Cabin, \$100 Sip N Stroll Mt Gretna Craft Brewery, \$60 Elaine Ludwig dues, \$26.52 RSVP Fred Folmer, \$20 Roysetta Brunner t-shirt for Linda for a total of a \$1256.52 deposit.

The Treasurer's report was approved on a Stouffer/Canner motion.

A Stouffer/Canner motion also passed to apply for a \$5000 Facebook Network for Good grant.

One bill needs paid, a \$50 fee from DEP for our well. Bethany is researching whether the fee should be exempt. If not, Gavin will be asked to forward a check prior to December 31.

Secretary: Minutes from the last meeting were emailed, and approved on a Stouffer/Miller motion.

On a Stouffer/Miller motion nominated Officers for 2022 passed unanimously: President Bethany Canner; VP Mike Adams; Secretary Fred Folmer; Treasurer Gavin Bender. Congratulations to the new officers!

Bordner Cabin: Fundraising-received \$1000 from Salem. Insurance updated.

HACC Student Project Sketches from Ashton Haulman & Zack Vincent completed.

Swatara Watershed Park:

- The last two trailers owned by Floyd Wolf were picked up. Thanks to Fred for placing them outside of the gate.
- Four tree stand permits were approved for bow hunters. Matthew Bushong, Mark Hreniuk, Chris Sattazahn, Michael Yingst.
- 5 deep-dish wheels were donated for small fire pits.

Bethany's research on DEP collecting an additional \$500 on drinking water wells, but nonprofits could be exempt as well as experience fewer monthly tests was referred to the House Environmental and Resources Committee. We will pay the \$50 bill for 1-100 average people, and apply for a refund when passed if it incorporates nonprofits. [Regular Session 2021-2022 House Bill 0572 P.N. 0535 \(state.pa.us\)](https://legis.state.pa.us)

Water Trail:

On a Stouffer/Miller motion, a unanimous vote passed for Swatara Watershed Association to proceed with Level 11, LVRT, and Visit Lebanon Valley to plan a joint map and marketing plan budget and timeline. Board members will be updated as things progress.

Exploratory Joint Trail Meeting 11.30.2021, 10am

Participants:

- Swatara Watershed Association: Jo Ellen Litz & Bethany Canner
- LV Rail Trail: Jay Greene
- Visit Lebanon Valley: Jennifer Kuzo
- Level 11—Marshall Kramer & Becky Woodhouse

As the existing Swatara Water Trail and soon to be completed LV Rail Trail parallel each other from Bunker Hill north to the County line, Jo Ellen shared a vision to co-brand and produce a joint Swatara Water Trail & LV Rail Trail map with marketing beneficial to Lebanon County citizens and tourism. Brainstorming took place on how this might look. The maps would be handed out at no cost for tourism, education, awareness, history, geology, wellness....

Jo Ellen also suggested that to kick off the marketing plan, and perhaps annually, hold a joint **HIKE, BIKE, PADDLE** fundraiser.

It was agreed that together these trails provide a lifetime of activity. Both Trails are genuine experiences desired by many people.

- Use Swatara Water Trail GIS layers to add LV Rail Trail from the Lancaster County line to the Schuylkill County line. The existing Swatara map has Union Canal Locks, geologic formations like fossil pits and lava deposits, hotels, Trailheads with addresses for GPS....
- For this project, eliminate the Schuylkill and Dauphin County portions of the Swatara Water Trail map.
- Also delete hotels outside of Lebanon County, and add hotels and other amenities along the LV Rail Trail. The LV Expo is one such amenity.
- SWA uses ColorTech, a Lebanon County vendor, to print maps. From typed lists or text, ColorTech also pulls together the added data outside of the map.
- Jennifer shared that she consistently promotes LVRT and SWT as premier outdoor venues in Lebanon County. DCNR even pays for an Outdoor guide.
- For newcomers, Jennifer also shared that VLV is funded through the Hotel Tax.
- Marshall suggested that Level 11 recreate SWA and LVRT websites with links between these two entities and the Visit Lebanon Valley website.
- Both Marshall and Jennifer believe it will be easier to promote the two venues with a united map and marketing plan.
- Jo Ellen suggested that QR codes for people to "check in" may help with statistical tracking.
- Bethany suggested having more detail about amenities on the websites.
- Becky suggested at each other's Trailheads we install signs with arrows to direct people up or downstream to the next Trailhead. For example: 1 mile to the next Swatara Water Trail access/Trailhead. Level 11 could design these signs.
- LVRT, SWA & VLV could write letters of support for each other to apply for grants from our traditional funders who look for a complete application, community support, and partnerships.
- To remain an official PA Water Trail and part of the national Captain John Smith Water Trail, the 3-county Swatara maps would still be produced, but used mostly in adjoining counties.
- LVRT & SWA will take the vision to their Boards for approval, and upon approval, work on a budget.
- At a future meeting, a timeline and other details can be explored further.

Other:

- Emrich Launch—still working on drawings to expand and stone the parking area, and add a cattle crossing type launch area. Bethany and Mike will meet with the Emrich's at their earliest convenience.
- George Kaufman was instrumental as Mayor in creating the Jonestown boat launch. He was also the first manager at Swatara State Park. NL Rotary is raising \$1500 to place a bench in Swatara State Park in George's name. Members present were in agreement to help promote fundraising as soon as a Rotary QR code is available to share with the public.
- Swatara State Park increased the size of the parking lot at Sand Siding, the closest hike to the Bordner Cabin.

The Penn State Cooperative Extension Master Watershed Steward program is receiving applications for a new class.

- Bethany will sign up for "free to nonprofits" Google and Microsoft software like GoogleDocs, Microsoft Teams, and TechSoup. Free emails are also available.
- Bethany and Mike are also looking for used culverts that could be used to repair the driveway crossings. Site one owner may be approached for assistance.
- "Passing of the Gavel included a Q&A session where Jo Ellen, Denny and Jack shared history that may be of benefit to the new leadership team. For example, with today's deposit, a healthy \$50,000 balance is available to carry SWA into the future. Lifetime membership funds are invested to have working capital available to pay for projects when grants are involved. Grant projects must usually be paid, and then you wait on reimbursement, sometimes months. Also invested are some bequests from lifetime members like Betty Conner.
- Cases of Water Trail maps were also loaded into Bethany's car. She will stop back for the EELS books.
- Mike reported that he purchased 12 new kayaks, and is working with the Lebanon County Historical Society to provide boat rides through the Union Canal and Tunnel.

Calendar:

12/1 Webinar with DCNR Secretary Cindy Dunn on ARP funds. Register

here: https://secure.everyaction.com/pe5hDzvKUUivXwqs_UaZtw2

Swatara Watershed Association - Meeting on November 3, 2021

Swatara Watershed Park, East Hanover Township, Lebanon County, PA

Attendance: SWA Board of Directors present were Bethany Canner, Mike Adams, Jack Stouffer, Jo Ellen Litz, and Fred Folmer.

Call to Order: Canner called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

Old Business:

A. **Border Cabin:** Canner reported that the annual Hike & History tour of the cabin will be held later in November and that some 60 persons have already expressed an interest in it.

B. **Harrisburg Area Community College:** Canner informed the Board that preliminary sketches for a new SWA logo by two HACC students have been submitted and that the project is ongoing.

C. **Level Eleven:** Graphics company Level Eleven is currently working on a new T-shirt design for the SWA.

D. **PA Water Trails:** On October 14, 2021 Canner and Litz participated in a Zoom meeting concerning PA water trails coordinated by the PA Organization of Waters and Rivers (POWR). The topics discussed were how to update information on the organization's website and how to make the website more user friendly.

E. **Swatara Watershed Park:**

1. By unanimous consent it was decided to change the combination on the entrance gate lock now that the 2021 camping season is over.

2. Canner reported that currently there are three bowhunters who have submitted requests to hunt in the park and have been approved according to the regulations stipulated in the request form.

3. Following today's meeting there will be a walk-through of the park to remove items left behind by the campers.

F. **Tree Plantings:** Canner informed the Board that tree plantings have been completed for 2021 and that some 1,000 trees have been planted in various locations in the county.

G. **Emrich Launch:** Canner and Adams noted that since the property containing the Swatara Water Trail canoe/kayak launch will not likely be deeded to the SWA, they felt that whatever plans for its improvement be minimalistic. Initial sketches of the improvements have been made.

New Business:

A. **Met-Ed Right-of-Way:** Canner reported the Met-Ed right-of-way through the park is overrun with invasive/noxious vegetation and that it was her understanding that Met-Ed is responsible for removing it. She will contact Met-Ed about this situation.

B. **Culverts:** It was noted that the culvert at the SWA Park entrance and the one under the access to campsite #1 are not functioning properly and are in need reconstruction. There was some discussion as to whether we want to continue renting out campsite #1. Canner offered to try to get estimates for the reconstruction of those culverts.

C. **SWA Park Possible Projects:** The following were mentioned as possible projects at the park:

1. A fire ring adjacent to the pavilion - it was felt this would make the pavilion in particular and the park in general more amenable and more likely to be rented by scout troops or other organizations; it might also be an additional draw should we decide to host another Sip-n Stroll.

2. Should we replace the missing charcoal grill at the pavilion? 3. Do we still want to advertise that we have canoes for rent? Did we rent any in 2021? Do we want to sell some or all of the canoes? If so, what is the asking price and how might we sell them? Do we want to donate canoes to some camp or other worthy organization?

D. Canner reported she has been in contact with two qualified persons who have a strong interest in becoming SWA **Board members** but they are not currently able to attend meetings as they work during the day.

E. **2022 Swatara Sojourn:** Attendees felt we should discuss the possibility of resuming the Swatara Sojourn in 2022 and evaluate any changes, additions, etc at the next meeting in December. Adjournment: Canner adjourned the meeting at 10:40 a.m. The location of the next meeting will be announced.

Minutes submitted by Fred Folmer, Secretary to the Board

Swatara Watershed Association Facebook 2052 Likes & 2114 Followers

Good ideas will stand the test of time. Plan seven generations ahead.

October 6, 2021

In attendance: Mike Adams, Bethany Canner, Fred Folmer, Jo Ellen Litz, Denny Miller, and Jack Stouffer.

Treasurer: Completed Charitable Organization Renewal form. Gavin will add \$15 check and financial statements and submit to the State by the 15th. \$20 received from Roysetta Brunner for a Bordner Cabin shirt for Linda Bordner, Armar's daughter; and Fred signed over his RSVP mileage check of \$26.52. Thanks to both people.

Secretary: Minutes from the last meeting were emailed.

We welcomed Denny back after he and his wife were both ill.

Bordner Cabin:

- Eisenhower revisiting Cabin after the 18' flood.
- Hike & History Tour in November approved. Find out when the new pipe on Sand Siding Road when will be completed.

HACC Student Project Sketches from Ashton Haulman & Zack Vincent will be emailed.

Swatara Watershed Park:

- Mike will lead a walk-through right after the Park closes on 10.31.21. Garbage will be removed, and sites with items left behind will have an increase for next year's season. Fred has a landfill sticker on his truck. There are flags, sneakers, tiki torches, old grills....
- Two tree stands are on our property without permission. We ask all bow hunters to register annually with Jo Ellen. We do NOT allow discharge of firearms on the site.
- Sip N Stroll debrief "Team Work makes the Dream Work." 3 businesses invoiced.
 - More women than men bought tickets for the Sip N Stroll.
 - We had numerous inquiries concerning campsites.
 - Good public relations.
 - Team building.
 - Engaged local businesses and nonprofits.
 - Relaxing day for attendees.
 - Promoted wellness getting outdoors.
 - Raised \$\$ for Clean Water
- Will send out "End of Season" camper notices.
- Security System replaced.
- Planted replacement trees, mostly Redbuds, at SW Park after the meeting.
- Discussed campsites with electricity and rate increases. There was consensus that electricity would negatively change campsites and the Primitive nature of the Park. Further, air conditioning could be left on day and night, and run up electric bills. Running electricity to each new campsite would cost a lot too. After a site inspection, we will revisit rates at the next meeting.

DEP could collect an additional \$500 on drinking water wells, but nonprofits could be exempt as well as experience fewer monthly tests. Referred to the House Environmental and Resources Committee.

[Regular Session 2021-2022 House Bill 0572 P.N. 0535 \(state.pa.us\)](#) Bethany will look into this, and make a recommendation. Since the Park is in E Hanover, which is Rep Helm's District, and Bethany also lives there, a letter with her signature may be well received.

Bethany reported that during Riparian Buffer month, trees, stakes, and tubes were delivered to West Lebanon Township for their walking trail; and 350 trees were planted in Jonestown. It was very wet, but volunteers from Greening the Lower Susquehanna, a Jonestown church, Jonestown Borough, 10 Million Trees, Master Watershed Stewards, and Penn State Extension got the job done in about 2 hours.

Calendar:

10.7 Municipal Officials Convention at the LV Expo. Audubon & Keystone Conservation are presenting SWAs Return on Environment. [Return on Environment – Swatara Water Trail \(swatarawatershed.org\)](#)
11.7/8 POWR Conference

September 1, 2021

- For a school project, HACC students Ashton Haulman and Zack want to redesign our logo, advertise, make pamphlets, and offer website options. Consensus approved by the Board.
- Nominations for Conservation District: Farmer Director and Public Director: Calvin Miller and Bob Arnold's terms are up. Renominate them. Accepting additional nominations should they decline.
- **Josh Eisenhauer delivered a \$42,000 bid from Woodland Contractors** for repairs under the Bordner Cabin porch. Forwarded a copy to Lori Yeich at DCNR and Swatara State Park Manager Courtney Troutman. Applied for \$50,000 Salem grant for Bordner Cabin.
- For his project, Eagle Scout Gavin Thierwecter wants to make benches for the Bordner Cabin. **Retrieve slabs of ash from Mike Willeman.**
- **Video system** parts on order for Swatara Watershed Park. Will check back with **Reed's**.
- Water tested and passed at campground. Thanks, Bethany!
- Registered with Cinespot, no charge.
- TS Ida predicted to crest at 14.5'. Roads closed list on our Facebook page.
- Visit Lebanon Valley will feature the Swatara Creek in their new publication.
- **Charitable Organization renewal due** 12.31.2021. Postmark by 11.15.21.
- Fred on Little Swatara. Liked pervious pavement.

SIP N STROLL Last night, Under the Bridge Cider confirmed their attendance.

- Rain Date Sunday, 9.26.2021.
- Save \$5 by using PayPal in advance of the Sip N Stroll. \$30 at the door. Your payment will also include a water conservation kit while they last.
- Swatara Watershed Park is maintained by the [Swatara Water Trail](#), and funds raised will go towards Clean Water projects like maintaining this Park, planting trees, conservation education, the Bordner Cabin, and Emrich launch near Harper's.
- This is a 33-acre Park with plenty of room for social distancing. Outdoors, germs dissipate with the wind, and the ultraviolet rays of the sun help to disinfect naturally. Walking is a good form of exercise to stay strong and promote wellness too.
- You are encouraged to bring your own lawn chair.

Assignments & To Do:

Admission – Bethany and Jo Ellen on east end of pavilion to capture images of carding log; rope off with brewers in a separate area separating those manned by volunteer servers (20 x 25') for Troegs and Tattered Flag (20 x 25'). No children in pavilion.

Brewers: Under the Bridge Cider came onboard last night.

Day of Event: cash box, petty cash, banners, water conservation kits

Door Prizes – Jo Ellen, kayak trip donation, car wash bucket (tickets), others may be donated by vendors—caps, shirts...

Event Insurance – **Zinn \$660 Motion by Jack/Bethany. Unanimous.**

Fill Potholes – Bethany? Friday

Garbage and Cans – Bethany and Fred

Line Parking Lot & PU rental/paint – Clear Campers. Jo Ellen on Wednesday, Eagle Rentals, \$15 + paint

Marketing – **Everyone share event on your Facebook Page; purchase ads?** To promote, attended the 50+ EXPO, County Commissioners of PA seminar, Old Annville Days, Lebanon Area Fair Nonprofit night. Public Service Announcements on Froggy FM 100 with Steve Todd Davies. On Visit LV & Chamber event pages.

Mow Grass – Parking Lot by Bethany's team by Wednesday

Music – Mike???

News Releases – Jo Ellen, 9.13.2021

Parking: **_Fred and Jack_ Stop by neighbors again for confirmation.**

Pick up Product from Troegs, Jeff Herb, 5 cases, **#2 variety?**; possibly Tattered Flag. - **_Bethany_**

Pilsner Glasses, plastic – Jo Ellen, Grandstand, 5 oz with fill lines.

Policies and Procedures:

- No refunds.
- No alcohol beyond grass island.
- Ask who is your designated driver.
- If Server or Brewer cut off and a patron who is compliant, offer food like pretzels or other snacks, water...; encourage to wait, stay for music...with designated driver; or offer to call a taxi or uber. If belligerent, state we will call police. If not compliant, call SP.
- Server, do not cut off alone. Always stay calm. Do not raise your voice. Ask another SWA member to join you. Engage help from their designated driver and group.

Servers - 2 volunteers to get RAMP certified and serve. \$20 for 2 year license. Reimbursement?

Signs – Order appropriate signage from PLCB n/c, or provided by Troegs. Fred install, and Jo Ellen make **Special Operations Permit \$30** – Jo Ellen, received. Also RAMP certified. NOTIFY STATE POLICE 48-HOURS in advance.

Sponsors: Jo Ellen, **PA American Water**, David Misner may try to stop by event.

Tables Moved: **_Fred & Bethany_ Friday morning**

Toilet – Extra for event Jo Ellen

Zoom Orientation for Servers – PLCB Required, set up by Jo Ellen

Water Conservation Kits – Jo Ellen, water conservation meets LCB requirements for the special permit

Wristbands – Jo Ellen, received

Here's a look at the total budget (some items are educated guesses):

\$500 property rental, in kind by SWA

\$500 tent, sponsored

\$300 wrist bands, sponsored

\$500 music donated--arranged by Mike

\$100 RAMP certified servers

\$900 Special Event Insurance (Sunday can be a rain date)
\$ 75 Line paint and applicator rental
\$ 75 brochures and mailing to sponsors
\$700 Pilsner glasses (partially sponsored PA American \$200 and FNB \$100)
\$??? Garbage disposal
\$ 50 Signage and Markers
\$100 Facebook ads, (news releases and Visit Lebanon Valley free)
\$4000 - \$2100 sponsored - \$200 food truck donations (Cheezy Grill and Seltzers Bologna) = \$1700 upfront costs from SWA

With 100 attendees, we'd net \$800 - \$1300 (100 x \$25/30)
With 300 attendees, we'd net \$5800 - \$7300 (300 x \$25/30)

OTHER: Fred Check for Sales Tax returned. \$61.12. Jo Ellen Sales Tax returned.
Fred: Pine Grove Launch overgrown. Used a weed trimmer. 40 minutes to make a path and clear sign. Filled with maps. Visited Palmyra Fish and Game. Sara Chadlowski for a conservation easement.
Bethany October 2 trees planting in Jonestown, 9am, at Borough building. Tubes picked up. Looking for volunteers. Help to stage. Church and Boy Scouts.
Flooding: all campers on higher ground but 1. Follow up on picnic tables.
Mike drawing up plan for Emrichs.
Ask for Volunteers.
Adjourn: Fred/jack Adjourn.

7.7.2021 @ 9:30am Location: Watermelon at the Waterworks. Members present picked up litter before enjoying watermelon, followed by a field meeting.

In attendance: Mike Adams, Jack Adams, Bethany Canner, Fred Folmer, Jo Ellen Litz. Excused: Gavin Bender, Denny Miller and Jack Stouffer.

The Secretary and Treasurer's reports were emailed to the Board. Also, Gavin reports that our 2020 return is completed. Copies are forthcoming. **Donations: RSVP, Fred's mileage reimbursement \$31.46; Denny Miller \$60 towards tables; Wendy Hanford \$100 towards the Bordner Cabin. Thanks all! Jo Ellen still has \$100 in petty cash to be used for change at the Sip N Stroll.**

Apparel Link added to website <https://www.bohringdesigns.com/swatara-watershed-apparel>

Customers can pay directly from the webpage with either PayPal or a credit card, pick it up in the store at LV Mall, or by adding shipping, have it mailed directly to them directly.

Bordner Cabin: Fred and Jo Ellen assembled the wagon wheel. A wood petrifying solution was applied to the more original wheel. Fiberglass was used to extend the rotted spokes. The spokes on both wheels and the wood circumference were painted red, and the metal hubs and bands black. Also, the week before the wheels were done, **WGAL TV8 did a 7-minute segment on the Swatara State Park and Bordner Cabin. Visit Lebanon Valley hiked to the Cabin with WGAL. [Facebook](#)**

- **Stewards:** Elaine Ludwig, Lebanon County Conservation District, Jo Ellen Litz, and Pete Silldorff committed to continue as stewards.
- **The Porch:** A second coat of stain was applied to the whole porch.
- **Estimates:** **Josh Eisenhower**, to date, YOE Industrial Services, Inc is the only bid received to use ShotCrete to fill a void under the porch from the 2018 500-1000-year flood date. Follow up with Josh.

Conservation District invitation: MaryKate Gallagher **Lebanon County Clean Water Action Team.** We asked to have restoration of Rattling Run considered. Rattling Run runs next to Bordner Cabin. The \$99,000 award was made to Trout

Unlimited for Hammer Creek for a nutrient reduction project. Further, their 25% match was waived. The project must be done by October.

Sip & Stroll: Lebanon Water Authority Tent Sponsor \$500 (reserved), **Cleona Dental wristband sponsor \$300** (ordered), **First Citizens Community Bank \$100**. Hand delivered invitations to Fulton Bank, Jonestown Bank, Lebanon Federal Credit Union, Northwest Savings Bank, American Water and Suez Water. Work on a parking plan. **Visit Lebanon Valley will help promote**. Members present worked on a map to share with vendors and the public.

1. There will be One Way around the grass island the day of the event.
2. Jo Ellen will make three signs indicating travel direction. The backs of the signs will state, "No Alcohol Beyond this Point." So that we are all on the same page, she will also create a zoom meeting for vendors and the Board. She also approached a neighbor about overflow parking.
3. Some picnic tables may be spread out under trees for shade, beer vendors placed in the pavilion, & a band placed under the tent.
4. Fred will prepare three 2x4 stakes for the signs.
5. Bethany will provide rebar to string lights as well as 4 trash receptacles;
6. Mike will coordinate a PA System and live band.

Suez Water Tour being scheduled. They were still not allowing tours due to the pandemic.

Swatara Falls: Per Nick Kriston, Swatara Falls, Philadelphia City of Trustee and Girard Stephen Estate are both affiliated with The Board of Directors of City Trusts in Philadelphia.

Swatara Watershed Park: Campers at an all-time high, 27. All but one remaining sites are for tents. **Fred stained and delivered four more tables, and Jo Ellen branded and numbered them. Notified campers, per their lease, no generators are allowed. We will allow solar panels with battery storage.**

- Garbage dumped into porta poddy. Also, email sent to all campers reminding them no generators, which can create excessive noise, be a fire hazard, and a pollution source.
- Service security.
- Updates on the **successful tree planting**--Bethany and Mike are weeding the tree plantings. There was irony in that 90 black walnut trees were cut down on 22nd Street. Central Penn Business Journal is doing a story on the cut trees.
- **Lawn mowing Team includes: Bethany Canner, Ed Gruber, Steve Novosel, Kendra Peugh, and Richard Rager.** (Eileen Eckert in site 3, and Ricky Hare in Site 13 are also available to help mow.)
- **Numerous Scout Troops will be utilizing the pavilion, and one troop will be camping in site 2 while kayaking.**

Swatara Water Trail: Emrich Lauch: Bethany, Mike and Jo Ellen will meet at 10am Thursday on site. At minimum, before applying for a DCNR grant, we must have a formal signed 25-year lease or an easement on the deed filed with the Recorder of Deeds. A donation of the land would be expensive and time consuming to acquire, create a subdivision plan, land development plan....

Other : **CINESPOT?** Looking for sites on which to film movies. Jo Ellen will look into it. info@cinespotemail.com

Jo Ellen is working on **renewing our tax exempt number (every 5 years)**. A pdf of the tax return will allow online renewal. When updated, we can present our paid invoices to Lowes to receive a refund on sales tax from the picnic tables....

Jeannie Ortiz, Audubon Society, and others will present our **Return on Environment ROE** study at the countywide **Township Conference** held at the Expo. Along with **John Rogers, Keystone Conservation Trust,** Jo Ellen will be part of a panel at the **County Commissioners Conference** in Hershey in August.

Route 72 Bridge @ Frog's Hollow has a detour plan.

Mike Adams and his wife Ashley successfully **certified** both their homestead and 635 Pine Road as **Watershed Friendly!**

A booth will be set up at **Old Anville Day on August 14**. Volunteers to talk with and educate people are welcome

Bethany reported that **fall plantings** will **include Red Buds** and take place in **West Lebanon Park on Lehman Street** where **50 trees** will be planted; **700 trees will be planted in Jonestown** October 7 or 9; and **200 trees** will be available to **replace any trees that didn't make it** from the spring.

Respecting our history, Jo Ellen will pursue a **fun and educational "kids t-shirt"** with **Swatara Creek featuring an American Eel**, which means **Where we Feed on Eels**. Level Eleven will be approached to donate a design. American Eels were caught in weirs, fried, and/or smoked to provide sustenance through the winter months. Occasionally, Eels are still caught in the Swatara Watershed.

Next meeting will be live on **August 4, 2021**. Fred invited Land Preservation Specialist **Sarah Chudnovsky** with Berks Nature. We will meet at Swatara Watershed Park, 1929 Blacks Bridge Road, Anville PA 17002

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6.2.2021 @ 9:30am Location: Litz residence.

In attendance: Bethany Canner, Fred Folmer, Jo Ellen Litz, Jack Stouffer

The Secretary and Treasurer's reports were emailed to the Board. Also, Gavin reports that an extension of time to file our 2020 return was approved by the IRS through 11.15.21, but if we file for grants, we need a copy of our 2020 tax return. Gavin said he'd have it done shortly. Received \$24.79 from Amazon Smile.

Apparel Link added to website

<https://www.bohringdesigns.com/swatara-watershed-apparel>

Included both men's and women's offerings with our logo in a water-wicking fabric, Patriot Blue in color.

Customers can pay directly from the webpage with either PayPal or a credit card, pick it up in the store at LV Mall, or by adding shipping, have it mailed directly to them directly.

Bordner Cabin:

The Wheel: Jo Ellen --Mike & Jo Ellen to install.

Stewards: Elaine Ludwig, Lebanon County Conservation District, Jo Ellen Litz, and Pete Silldorff committed to continue as stewards. Along with Board members who volunteer, stewards will receive an "ASK ME" t-shirt to wear when visiting the cabin. **Per his request, two shirts are ready for Denny Miller.**

The Porch: Spot stained. Will get back to put a coat on the whole porch, taking along a roller and pan.

Estimates: **Josh Eisenhower**, YOE Industrial Services, Inc bid is \$89,700. Evaluating the contract. Looking for a local contractor. Post to Facebook

Conservation District invitation: MaryKate Gallagher **Lebanon County Clean Water Action Team.**

[Lebanon Countywide Clean Water Action Plan holding slogan and logo contest - LebTown](#) Due May 31. Bethany is attending meetings. Bethany reported that CWA must spend \$100,000 on stream improvements this year in order to qualify for more funding for future projects. We asked to have Rattling Run stream restoration considered. Rattling Run runs next to Bordner Cabin.

Sip & Stroll: Lebanon Water Authority donated \$500, which will cover the tent. Hand delivered invitations to First Citizens Community Bank, Fulton Bank, Jonestown Bank, Lebanon Federal Credit Union, Northwest Savings Bank, American Water and Suez Water. Members suggested the RV/Camper place at the Turnpike entrance, and the RV on 422 in Palmyra.. We also have a lead on a sponsor for the wrist bands. Work on a parking plan at our next meeting.

Suez Water Tour being scheduled. They were still not allowing tours due to the pandemic.

Swatara Falls: Per Nick Kriston, Swatara Falls, Philadelphia City of Trustee and Girard Stephen Estate are both affiliated with The Board of Directors of City Trusts in Philadelphia.

Swatara Watershed Park: Campers at an all-time high, 27. **Fred will pick up four more tables, and stain them. They are preassembled.**

Updates on the **successful tree planting**--Bethany 50 volunteers participated including a scout troop and students from both Annville Cleona and Cedar Crest High School. Bethany provided instruction: <https://www.facebook.com/86311524094/videos/486895122339942>

Lawn mowing Team includes: Bethany Canner, Ed Gruber, Steve Novosel, Kendra Peugh, and Richard Rager.

Well Testing passed. Pay bill.

Swatara Water Trail: Emrich Lauch, Bethany.

Other : Bethany reported that more tree plantings on Swatara Road, Londonderry Township, Middletown with the Dauphin County Extension Office and Penn State Extension. Bethany is also taking a course for grant writing. Jo Ellen will provide our old TIN and other federal numbers to Bethany.

Fred reported on the Upper Little Swatara. Kent Himmelwright will have lab tests soon.

There is a problem with our tax exempt number at Lowes. Jo Ellen is working on it. When updated, we can present our paid invoices to receive a refund on sales tax.

90 BLACK WALNUT TREES on 22nd Street cut down, and other possible Soldier Trees.

Next meeting will be live on **July 2, 2021 Watermelon at the Waterworks.** Fred is arranging a guest speaker.

5.5.2021 Our first in person meeting in a long time.

In attendance: Mike Adams, Bethany Canner, Josh Eisenhauer, Fred Folmer, Jo Ellen Litz, Denny Miller, and Jack Stouffer.

The Secretary and Treasurer's reports were emailed to the Board, and approved.

Apparel Link added to website

<https://www.bohringdesigns.com/swatara-watershed-apparel>

Included both men's and women's offerings with our logo in a water-wicking fabric, Patriot Blue in color.

- Muscle Shirts
 - Short-sleeved Shirts
 - Long-sleeved Shirts
 - Sweatshirts
 - Hats
 - Waterproof sack
 - "I Paddle the Swatara Creek" souvenir shirts with logo
 - "Bordner Cabin Volunteer, ??? Ask Me" shirts in Neon Yellow with logo (**Order 1 dozen**)
 - "Swatara Sip & Stroll in September" plastic beer mugs and wine glasses with logo
1. They included 15% for a donation to Swatara Watershed Association, a 501c3 nonprofit organization, that will be sent to us every six months.
 2. Customers can pay directly from the webpage with either PayPal or a credit card, pick it up in your store, or by adding shipping, have it mailed directly to them directly.

Bordner Cabin:

The Wheel: Jo Ellen --The outside diameter across the wheel's outer rim, which is 1/2" thick, is 44 1/2".

--The rim cannot be removed as it's cemented into the ground.

--I traced the arc of the rim onto a 6" board for a pattern.

--A 2" high by 3" wide wooden ring, with 1" holes drilled into it 5" apart, lines the inside of the outer rim.

--About 7" of the wooden ring have rotted away at the bottom of each side of two wheels.

--Recreated the wooden ring to install the spokes.

--Mike & Jo Ellen to install.

Stewards: Elaine Ludwig, Lebanon County Conservation District, Jo Ellen Litz, and Pete Silldorff committed to continue as stewards. Along with Board members who volunteer, stewards will receive an "ASK ME" t-shirt to wear when visiting the cabin.

Jack asked about a bridge across Rattling Run. It was suggested that a bridge would wash out in high water. Jack also inquired about blazing trails. Anything done would have to be consistent with the Park Master Plan, and approved by DCNR.

The Porch: Spot stained. Will get back to put a coat on the whole porch.

Estimates: Met with **Josh Eisenhower**, and included him in this agenda as an invitation to our Board meeting. He **added a few measurements and a narrative to the drawing; soliciting bids for the work so we know how much money we will need; and can explain the suggestion to put the streambed back to its original height.**

Thanks for meeting with me to go over the Bordner Cabin drawings. Below is my understanding of the drawings:

- For due diligence and fundraising, 2-3 estimates will be sought from reliable local contractors. The winning bid will be required to provide proof of insurance naming the Swatara Watershed Association as recipient to cover any losses.

- Not discussed was the possibility of donated contractor services and/or part of the work being completed by the Red Horse Air National Guard. Your input here is welcome.
- A survey could be completed to accurately calculate quantities of needed product. A survey costs about \$2000. Either way, the contractor can only bill for product used.
- The project can be done in one estimate, or broken down into two projects—the Shotcrete, and then the stream restoration.
- The cost for Shotcrete was about \$500 per cubic yard installed. With the pandemic, prices have risen.
- The void under the porch goes back about 2 feet.
- Shotcrete must cure for one week.
- While Shotcrete is a 1-day job, a timeline will be developed.
- During the 2018 500-year flood, water combined with runoff from Route 81, which created the effect of a 1000 year flood, moving boulders and eroding the streambed. The streambed should be restored to 3 feet above the washed out area/frost line. Consultants advise that this work can be done under our existing General Permit. Large stone will fill in the majority of the lost streambed, and topped with native stone at finish grade.
- To reflect the scope of work, for resubmittal to DCNR, a narrative and a few more dimensions will be added to the drawing. Josh will have this done Friday, and Jo Ellen will submit revisions to Courtney Troutman, Park Manager.
- ADDED: ROOF & POST UNDER PORCH.

Conservation District invitation: MaryKate Gallagher **Lebanon County Clean Water Action Team.** [Lebanon Countywide Clean Water Action Plan holding slogan and logo contest - LebTown](#) Due May 31. Bethany is attending meetings. Bethany reported that CWA must spend \$100,000 on stream improvements this year in order to qualify for more funding for future projects. We asked to have Rattling Run stream restoration considered. Rattling Run runs next to Bordner Cabin.

Suez Water Tour being scheduled.

Swatara Falls: Per Nick Kriston, Swatara Falls, Philadelphia City of Trustee and Girard Stephen Estate are both affiliated with The Board of Directors of City Trusts in Philadelphia.

Swatara Watershed Park:

Updates on the **successful tree planting**--Bethany 50 volunteers participated including a scout troop and students from both Annville Cleona and Cedar Crest High School. Bethany provided instruction:

<https://www.facebook.com/86311524094/videos/486895122339942> Many of us got an early case of poison ivy.

Pictures are also on our Facebook page. When ordering, Red Bud trees were gone, but various types of Dogwood were planted as well as other trees. [\(11\) Facebook](#)

Bethany provide stone mulch for planted trees--435. Bethany used "leftover" stone for the driveway.

Lawn mowing class 4.10 @ 10am. Team includes: Bethany Canner, Ed Gruber, Steve Novosel, Kendra Peugh, and Richard Rager.

Well Testing class with Tom Embich

Fred picked up and assembled 4 new picnic tables, which were weatherproofed, branded and numbered by Jo Ellen. Pavilion tables lettered A-K (minus "C"). Campsite #s placed on other tables.

Mike will deliver **fire buckets** and provide cable to secure the buckets and tables to trees for each campsite. **Jack moved, and Denny second, a motion to purchase needed hardware.**

Yellow **cow tags** installed as needed;

Bethany installed a lockbox on the shed.

Other :

Bethany is working with Tom Keefer at **Jonestown Borough** on two tree plantings totaling 600-700 trees. Tom is working on rounding up volunteers, and a date will be set for the fall. West Lebanon has development going on, and will get back to us.

Mike is conducting Union Canal Tours on May 16 at Union Canal Days. Ed Martel will be blowing a conk shell inside the tunnel. Sign up for 9AM or 10:30am tours.

Next meeting will be live on **June 2, 2021.**

Swatara Watershed Association Facebook 1912 Likes & 1970 Followers

Good ideas will stand the test of time. Plan seven generations ahead.

4.3.2021 on zoom <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I1JR7IUR8WQ&t=3961s>

In attendance: Michael Adams, Bethany Canner, Fred Folmer, Jo Ellen Litz, Jack Stouffer, MaryKate Gallagher, and Josh Eisenhauer.

The Secretary and Treasurer's reports were emailed to the Board.

Apparel Link added to website

<https://www.bohringdesigns.com/swatara-watershed-apparel>

Included both men's and women's offerings with our logo in a water-wicking fabric, Patriot Blue in color.

- Muscle Shirts
 - Short-sleeved Shirts
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3. They included 15% for a donation to Swatara Watershed Association, a 501c3 nonprofit organization, that will be sent to us every six months.
 4. Customers can pay directly from the webpage with either PayPal or a credit card, pick it up in your store, or by adding shipping, have it mailed directly to them directly.

Bordner Cabin:

On United Way Day of Caring, volunteers will **sweep, pull weeds, pick up litter...; brand two picnic tables in Cabin; work on wagon wheels.** The ordered wheel was misleading. It said large wheel, and the 18" appeared to be the size of one spoke. Not so. The entire wheel is 18" in diameter. However, **the circular wooden part next to the iron can be soaked in water, and shaped to fill in the rotted sections of the existing wheel.** The new spokes will be slightly different as **treated porch spindles from Lowes will work if cut to size, and some hand chiseling is completed.** 24 spokes are needed. Also **purchased primer, red barn paint, and a brush.** Samples were shown. Jack will ride with Jo Ellen to the Cabin on Day of Caring.

Stewards: Elaine Ludwig, Lebanon County Conservation District, Jo Ellen Litz, and Pete Silldorff committed to continue as stewards. Along with Board members who volunteer, stewards will receive an "ASK ME" t-shirt to wear when visiting the cabin.

Met with **Josh Eisenhower**, and included him in this agenda as an invitation to our Board meeting. He is **adding a few measurements and a narrative to the drawing; soliciting bids for the work so we know how much money we will need; and can explain the suggestion to put the streambed back to it's original height.**

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- Not discussed was the possibility of donated contractor services and/or part of the work being completed by the Red Horse Air National Guard. Your input here is welcome.
- A survey could be completed to accurately calculate quantities of needed product. A survey costs about \$2000. Either way, the contractor can only bill for product used.
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- To reflect the scope of work, for resubmittal to DCNR, a narrative and a few more dimensions will be added to the drawing. Josh will have this done Friday, and Jo Ellen will submit revisions to Courtney Troutman, Park Manager.

Conservation District invitation: MaryKate Gallagher was invited to meeting to explain details. On behalf of the **Lebanon County Clean Water Action Team**, I am extending an invitation for you, or someone from your watershed organization, to participate in our Countywide Action Plan (CAP) Watershed Action Team. Please join us as we take our CAP from planning to ACTION! An incredible amount of work went into developing our Countywide Action Plan for clean waters, and it is time for implementation. Although watershed partners and organizations were included in the planning stage, we have identified that creating a separate action team specifically for the watershed partners and stakeholders in the county would be the most beneficial for successful implementation. The action team will meet once a month on a reoccurring date and time to discuss the group's progress, county and organization updates, and any tasks that need to be completed to keep implementation going smoothly. **Bethany, Jo Ellen, and Mike expressed interest in the meeting. Lebanon County is in Tier 2, and will receive \$100,000 for projects that must be spent by the end of this year. MaryKate said the Bordner Cabin stream restoration would qualify.** After the meeting, additional projects were submitted: Purchase and stabilization of a parcel between Swatara Watershed Park and Blacks Bridge Road; tree sleeves for plantings next year; and restoration/improvement and tree planting at the Emrich Launch in East Hanover Township.

Suez Water Tour being scheduled.

Swatara Falls: Per Nick Kriston, Swatara Falls is definitely located on private land near the intersection of two property parcels. According to the Schuylkill County Parcel locator, the northernmost of the two parcels is owned by Morgan Sophia, LLC and the southernmost parcel is owned by Philadelphia City of Trustee and the Girard Stephen Estate. Morgan Sophia, LLC is affiliated with Nolan Perin. Mr. Perin owns Blackwood Inc, which is located near Tremont, and NAPA Development Corp. Inc. based out of Pen Argyl. Recently, Mr. Perin has been involved with the reclamation of mine land within Reilly Township, so he may prove to be a useful resource when it comes to preserving the waterfall. Philadelphia City of Trustee and Girard Stephen Estate are both affiliated with The Board of Directors of City Trusts in Philadelphia.

Swatara Watershed Park:

Updates on the **successful tree planting**--Bethany 50 volunteers participated including a scout troop and students from both Annville Cleona and Cedar Crest High School. Bethany provided instruction:

<https://www.facebook.com/86311524094/videos/486895122339942>

Pictures are also on our Facebook page. When ordering, Red Bud trees were gone, but various types of Dogwood were planted as well as other trees. [\(11\) Facebook](#)

Pay Bethany for stone mulch as we planted twice as many trees as anticipated--435.



Lawn mowing class with 4.10 @ 10am. Team may include: Bethany Canner, Ed Gruber, Steve Novosel, Kendra Peugh, and Richard Rager.

Well Testing class with Tom Embich

Pros & Cons of allowing stone under campers: While SWA advertises Primitive "or natural" Campsites, and we don't want a parking lot where campsites exist, we understand a camper request for stone they purchase, place, and maintain under their camper only.

Tables Branded and numbered. Pavilion tables lettered A-K (minus "C"). Campsite #s placed on other tables. This way, if one is not tied, and washes downstream,

when we retrieve it, we know where it goes. Tom paid for a second table as a retirement gift. Campers can be asked to assemble new tables. If all of our campers come back, we are out of tables. We've had **new campers take vacant sites 4, 5, 6 & 15.**

Tables needed for sites 7, 8, 13 & one that a gentleman is choosing soon. On a Stouffer/Folmer motion, permission was granted to purchase up to four more picnic tables. Fred will pick up and assemble tables.

Mike will deliver **fire buckets** for each campsite. Fred will pick up sticks.

Trees were labeled with white paint, but on United Way Day of Caring, Bethany will lead the group to put up **newly purchased yellow cow tags** as needed; pick up sticks; mount the final 3 Fish Out of Water in the eaves of the pavilion. One was mounted on the office, and one in the eave after the tree planting. The toilet was not put on the stone, and Bethany will get the crew to help **slide the toilet** to the correct location about 10' north of where it's sitting.

Walters Toilet brought in early due to several events--planting in March, Mulching in April...

An **aluminum ladder** is on the bank in the upper campsites. It could wash away during flooding.

Ten campers have their ID, lease, liability release signed, and payment submitted.

Mike said two more dead trees will be removed.

Bethany is working with Tom Keefer at **Jonestown Borough** on two tree plantings. Tom is working on rounding up volunteers.

Next meeting will be live on May 5, 2021.

3.3.2021 on zoom

In Attendance: Fred, Bethany, Jo Ellen, Jack, John Rowe

Secretary's report emailed. Additions, corrections, approval.

Treasurer's report Gavin: Gavin update on tax return, financial statements, and nonprofit status. **Motion to affirm \$450 bid. Report.** Derry Township Recycling Fund donated \$91. Jo Ellen created a History of the Woman's Club video, which was shared at their meeting. Speakers are given \$100, but Jo Ellen declined the money personally. Instead, she designated SWA as the recipient.

Administration: Provided a media training guide to Bethany.

Bordner Cabin: Literature box damaged. Needs replaced. Purchased for installation on Day of Caring. Waiting on diagram for under porch repairs. (Diagram arrived after the meeting, and was forward to Swatara State Park. In turn the diagram made it's way to DCNR.)

Bridges: Route 72 bridge schedule for replacement about 2023

Central Penn Business Journal submitted our leadership model application.

Clean Water: Keystone Protein and Bell and Evans

- Under the name Keystone Protein, B&E upgraded their sewage treatment plant, and I believe are in full compliance to place water back into the creek, which empties into Earllkill Run, and then the Little Swatara Creek SE of their plant. Based on the map provided, as for the "cone of depression" for withdrawal of 139,680 gallons from well 2, 216,000 gallons from well 3, and 179,000 gallons from well 4, it appears Fredericksburg property drainage goes into Deep run SW of the community, drains into Elizabeth Run, and then the Little Swatara. There appears to be 3-4 farms nearby the wells. If they're chicken farms, a water deficit could hurt their own business.
- If you haven't already heard, a federal judge ruled that Keystone Protein should be fined. For our long-term members, you may remember Susquehanna River Keeper Ted Evangeitis coming to a Swatara Watershed meeting wanting us to engage in a lawsuit he was filing.
- Some of the information Ted presented didn't sound right. Following the Conservation District model and biblical principle of going first to the accused, we asked for time to interview Keystone. We found the company to be truthful and cooperative. Ted was asked if they were looking for compliance or to go to court to make them pay fines. He said compliance. Keystone was working with DEP on the next steps, and is now in compliance. It was a surprise to hear there was still a court case.

[Fredericksburg processing plant owner to pay for polluting Chesapeake \(1dnews.com\)](https://www.1dnews.com/news/2020/07/20/fredericksburg-processing-plant-owner-to-pay-for-polluting-chesapeake/)

Fundraising:

- **When you shop at Smile.Amazon SWA will receive a donation** each quarter.
<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/25-1787360>
- **For 2021, due to the pandemic, we'd like to take our fundraiser outdoors.** Review dates for the fall to hold a **Sip and Stroll at Swatara Watershed Park.** So far, three vendors have responded affirmatively to our Survey Monkey—**Lebanon Valley Craft Brewery, Mt. Gretna Craft Brewery, and Swatara Coffee.**
 - **Friday-Saturday--One or two days?** Per vendor requests, Saturday only.
 - **Charge to vendors \$50 one day**
 - **Charge to visitors who would get a wrist band to sip:**
 - in advance \$25 one day
 - at the gate \$30 one day
 - **Should we invite food, arts/crafts, or other vendors?**
 - **How about music—live or DJ style?**
 - **Pets on leashes?** Attendees said yes, provided owners clean up after their pets.
 - **Is the beer sold or is it a tasting event?** Both if their licenses allow.
 - **Invite Swatara Watershed conservation groups:** Friends of the Union Canal, Lebanon Valley Conservancy, LV Rails to Trails, Manada Conservancy, Quittapahilla Watershed Assn

2020 Year in Review Newsletter <http://swatarawatershed.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/2020-Year-in-Review-Newsletter.pdf>

Swatara Watershed Park: Board Meeting on YouTube <https://youtu.be/AHma14YlqPI>

- Ask Tom to provide training for grass mowers early April: Scout Master Richard Rager, Kendra Peughm, Bethany Canner and Ed Gruber. 2-3 acres mowed.
- Bethany wrote a grant request for trees and tubes to stabilize the bank at Swatara Watershed Park. We will partner with Keystone 10 Million Trees. Learn more <https://cbf.box.com/s/yj0ncs4b29oqrtduwcmgyfhtjlk6ty5> . Bethany will

create a brochure explaining the tree tubes, and sent to campers. Bethany's BobCat has an auger to dig the holes. Volunteers will be sought to plant the flowering native trees like Dogwood and RedBud.

- Volunteers—Day of Caring, Brandon Osborne, Jennifer Longenecker
- Staging—scouts may help.
- Publicity—Jo Ellen sent out a news release including a quote for Keystone 10 Million Trees.
- To stabilize the banks of the Swatara Creek, **200-300 trees will be planted at Swatara Watershed Park**. Tree tubes will protect the trees from deer browsing.... Mark your calendar for **March 27 to help plant trees**. Sunday, March 28 will be the rain date. Later, **2a modified limestone** may be placed around the base of the trees as a **mulch so that weed killer**, that could seep into the Swatara, **will not have to be used**. This method also helps to keep voles out of the tubes. Jo Ellen will contact East Hanover Elementary to ask if their sixth graders might like to help with plantings. Stephanie will reach out to other Master Watershed Stewards to seek assistance. Participants should bring a knife, mallet, and shovel.
- West Lebanon and Jonestown Boro interested in trees. Bethany met with officials Wednesday and Monday. Private owner John Rowe in Union Deposit was in attendance, and invited SWA on a tour to see the erosion as well as Union Canal remnants on his 35 acres consisting of three tracts of land. He is also open to a cleanup.
- Mike changed the access gate lock to 2018, the last flood.
- One dead ash tree remains to come down alongside the top of the boat ramp.
- Notice came from DEP concerning a missed nitrate-nitrite sample of April/May, 2020 at last year's opening. Tom wrote a nice letter apologizing for the oversight. DEP said we can just pick up the pieces before this year's opening. Bethany is willing to do the testing.

Swatara Water Trail:

- **Campers already inquiring about sites. Application posted to our website.**
- Sand Siding Trailhead drawings shared by Union Township.
- Bethany is working on a DCNR grant for Watershed access improvements.
- **Jo Ellen will try to set up a zoom meeting with Mr. Emrich.**
- 2021 Campership will assess \$50 to cover trash left behind last year or picnic tables retrieved because they were not secured. Request someone walk the sites with me to document which sites were in violation of their lease. **Tiki torches are problematic. Fuel cans spill. Everything must be removed from the site 10.31.**
- **Swatara Water Trail page**-a link to an interactive Google map created by Bethany was added as well as a chart stating miles between launches, also created by Bethany
https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1QdC-IIXC8v_yHj7wNSPFdpLprVRctnWe&usp=sharing

Weather Watcher: Any residents who live in northern Lebanon County who are interested in becoming a weather watcher for the National Weather Service, should email their interest to: ctp.stormreports@noaa.gov to learn about the requirements needed to become certified.

Other:

- **Staples Tax exemption renewal request was submitted**
- **POWR has a grant page.**
- **American Water Company has a grant due March 31.**
- Bethany suggested reinstating our online store. **Stopped with the store at LV Mall. They are willing to set up a page. Permission to move ahead.**
- Jo Ellen tried to claim the Swatara Watershed Park on Google Maps. Not sure if they accepted my video.
- Bethany researched a spring cleanup of a wooded area where the Quittapahilla meets the Swatara Creek around Gravel Hill Road across from Pine Road. Put on hold.
- Nick Kriston contacted SWA concerning **Swatara Falls in Reilly Township, Newton, Schuylkill County**. Dumping, graffiti, clear cutting and a closed landfill are some of the challenges. He wondered how Swatara Falls could be preserved. Jo Ellen suggested asking the landowner for a conservation easement or land donation. Fred Folmer volunteered to be the contact, and work through Kent Himelright and a Watershed Implementation Program lead by Berks Conservation District.

Media: [Is Lebanon County's current water supply adequate? - LebTown](#)

Fly the Mighty Susquehanna LDN <https://www.facebook.com/ldnews/videos/128081109171493>

While not referencing our ROE directly, Lebanon County's Covid Recovery Plan mentions the value our outdoor venues to the physical and mental health and well-being of our citizens.

Also, there's a series of Visit Lebanon Valley videos utilizing subtle aspects of our Return on Environment Study.

- **Explore the Outdoors** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2SzkGhYYvY>
- **Welcome to the Lebanon Valley** <https://youtu.be/valH29rPEP4>
- **Spend the Day with Us** <https://youtu.be/cv94uQRtYMY>
- **Where Will You Go** <https://youtu.be/UtsojmFLymM>
- **Looking Forward to an Adventure With You** <https://youtu.be/Ni6NJ4HRGPg>
- **Get Outside, Locally** <https://youtu.be/fZWeFasleEU>
- **Find Your Fun in the Lebanon Valley**
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nn4RXzMJ2qw&feature=emb_title

Calendar:

- March 27 plant trees at Swatara Watershed Park
- April 17, United Way Day of Caring projects at Swatara Watershed Park and Bordner Cabin
- May 15 RSVP food trucks at Lebanon Valley Mall
- September 25, Swatara Sip and Stroll at Swatara Watershed Park.

Swatara Watershed Association Facebook 1865 Likes & 1922 Followers

Good ideas will stand the test of time. Plan seven generations ahead.

2.3.2021 on zoom

In Attendance: A quorum was not reached. Votes will be taken at our next meeting.

Secretary's report emailed. Additions, corrections, approval.

Treasurer's report Gavin: Gavin is obtaining a bid to complete our tax return, financial statements, and nonprofit status.

Administration:

- New officers signed documents at the bank to be able to write checks. Denny Miller turned over the books and password, which will be changed, for Gavin.
- Three 64-gig flash drives purchased to transfer files to Bethany, Mike and Gavin.

Bordner Cabin: Literature box damaged. Needs replaced. Waiting on diagram for under porch repairs.

Central Penn Business Journal invitation to submit our leadership model.

Fundraising:

- **When you shop at Smile.Amazon SWA will receive a donation** each quarter. <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/25-1787360>
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Zoom workshop on web editing. If you'd like a demonstration, let Jo Ellen know.

- **Homepage**-scroll down to the officers, and you'll see both Bethany and Gavin were added. You'll also read where Bethany successfully wrote a grant for trees to stabilize the banks at Swatara Watershed Park. Protective tubes are also supplied.
- **American Eels page**-the Weirs link was added.
- **Minutes page**-all of the 2020 minutes are posted under one link
- **Swatara Sojourn page**-a message was added that we will restart sojourns in 2022.
- **Swatara Water Trail page**-a link to an interactive Google map created by Bethany was added as well as a chart stating miles between launches, also created by Bethany https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1QdC-IIXC8v_yHj7wNSPFdpLprVRctnWe&usp=sharing

Swatara Watershed Park:

- Steve and Penny Novosel Moving. Will need someone to commit to mowing grass for 2021. Would you be willing to mow on a rotating schedule?
- Bethany wrote a grant request for trees and tubes to stabilize the bank at Swatara Watershed Park. We will partner with Keystone 10 Million Trees. Learn

more <https://cbf.box.com/s/yj0ncs4b29oqrtduwcmgyfhtjlk6ty5> . Bethany will create a brochure explaining the tree tubes, and sent to campers. Bethany's BobCat has an auger to dig the holes. Volunteers will be sought to plant the trees.

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- **Jo Ellen will try to set up a zoom meeting with Mr. Emrich.**
- 2021 Campership will assess \$50 to cover trash left behind last year or picnic tables retrieved because they were not secured. Request someone walk the sites with me to document which sites were in violation of their lease.

Educational Opportunity: Online Watershed Conference on **February 18, 2021 at 6pm**, Jo Ellen and Jeanne will be presenting at this conference for [Pennsylvania Organization for Watersheds and Rivers \(pawatersheds.org\)](http://pawatersheds.org)

Case Study Applying **Return on Environment**

Findings to Land and Water Planning and the Role of CWOs

- Jeanne Barrett Ortiz, Senior Program Manager, Landscape Conservation, Audubon Pennsylvania
- Jo Ellen Litz Lebanon County Commissioner

Other:

- Bethany suggested reinstating our online store.
- Jo Ellen will work on signing up the Watershed Park and Bordner Cabin as Day of Caring projects.
- Jo Ellen will claim the Swatara Watershed Park on Google Maps.
- Bethany will research a spring cleanup of a wooded area where the Quittapahilla meets the Swatara Creek around Gravel Hill Road across from Pine Road.

1.6.2021 on zoom 1929 Facebook followers Website www.SwataraWatershed.org

In Attendance: Mike Adams, Gavin Bender, Bethany Canner, Tom Embich, Fred Folmer, Stephanie Harmon, Jo Ellen Litz, and Jack Stouffer.

Election of Officers: Nominations from the floor were welcome. In summary, Denny sent notice that he is unable to continue as treasurer. Mike is still working out details of purchasing Cocoa Kayaks. Bethany would like Jo Ellen to mentor her by serving as president one more year. Next year, Bethany would take over as president, and Mike would fill the VP slot. The recommend slate was moved by Jack Stouffer, and seconded by Tom Embich. Motion carried unanimously.

- President Jo Ellen Litz
- VP Bethany Canner
- Treasurer Gavin Bender
- Secretary Fred Folmer

A new signature card will need filed at the bank.

Special thanks to Tom Embich who is resigning from the Board after 50 years of service.

Swatara Sojourn: For best water flow, we traditionally hold our Sojourn the first weekend in May each year. With coronavirus vaccines predicted to be given to the general public starting in June 2021, there was consensus not to proceed with the Swatara Sojourn. Instead, we will concentrate on a Sip and Stroll fundraiser at Swatara Watershed Park later in the year—August-October. In addition, we will conduct a few small cleanups along the Swatara.

Swatara Watershed Park:

- Jo Ellen bid on, acquired, and donated five Fish out of Water exhibits for display at Swatara Watershed Park. Currently, the artwork on fish found in the Swatara—trout, bass, sunfish—is in the office. In the spring, fish can be mounted in sheltered locations such as the inside eaves of the pavilion, under the overhang on the office and shed.
- Cody Rager's Eagle Scout Project to repair the well-house is complete. Jo Ellen signed off on the project.
- Bethany took the initiative to apply for a MaskUp Lebanon grant in exchange for advertising the MaskUp campaign. With the blessing of the majority of the Board, Bethany was successful in this endeavor. Jo Ellen was not a part of the discussion.
- Yellow "Xs" are marked on dead trees for removal.
- Tom is developing a book of protocol for the Park.

Bordner Cabin:

- Around December 10, it looked like someone was trying to live in the basement of Bordner Cabin. Park Rangers removed plywood closing off the garage, and placed the individual "under porch" gates to the side.
- Josh Eisenhauer called to apologize for the delay in forwarding plans for under porch repairs. He assures us he is close to being able to forward the drawing.

- **Swatara Water Trail:** There is a contract with Union Township to improve the Sand Siding Trail Head.

Bridges: The two Inwood bridges are open. The public can drive across the new bridge to access the YFC camp and Appalachian Trail Bridge as well as homes to the south of the crossing. The old iron bridge is refurbished, and can be explored in a new park along Old State Road.

Press:

- **Valley Glenn** history by Jeff Falk in LebTown [At the turn of the century, Valley Glen Park was the place to see and be seen - LebTown](#)
- **Swatara Dam** history by Joshua Groh in Swatara State Park for LebTown [A decades-long project almost dammed the Swatara Creek and radically altered northern Lebanon County - LebTown](#)
- **Box Car Rocks** history by Joshua Groh for LebTown [At the top of the county, the magnificent Boxcar Rocks are one of Lebanon's best hiking spots - LebTown](#)

Other:

- **Our Domain name** is registered with GoDaddy. Jo Ellen had purchased and donated SwataraWatershed.net (expires 7.26.2023) and SwataraWatershed.org (expires 3.29.22) or five years. No action is needed at this time. Please retain this information for future reference.
- **A virtual Rain Barrel workshop will be held by Stephanie Harmon next week.**
- **An orientation was held for new Board Members after the regular meeting.**
 - Sojourn Planning grid--**Jo Ellen**
 - Swatara Kayaking Facebook Page--**Bethany**
 - Add new Board members as administrators to our Swatara Water Trail Facebook Page--**Jo Ellen**
 - Swatara Water Trail
 - DCNR Grant for accesses and docks--**Bethany**
 - Obtain a copy of Township plans for Fulling Mill Road and Schiavoni Park
 - Get each access owner where improvements will be made to sign a 25-lease agreement that will be recorded at the Recorder of Deeds
 - Plant trees
 - 5% match
 - Partners
 - Fish and Boat contact person (**Jo Ellen**)
 - Swatara Watershed Park
 - Tom's book of protocol, well tests high priority
 - Change the combination lock--**Mike**
 - Put tables and fire buckets back into campsites, and tie fast--**Mike** and **Bethany**
 - Mount Fish Out of Water exhibit--**Jo Ellen** and ?
 - Office combination and instructions to review video **Jo Ellen** and all Board members if desired.
 - Administration
 - Signatures on Bank Accounts-Jo Ellen, **Gavin** and **Bethany**
 - Follow GASBY rules to alternate handling of \$\$ (receipts and deposits, checks, and statements).
 - Quickbook data and online passwords from Denny Miller--**Gavin**
 - Bid to file 2020 tax return and Charitable Organization form--**Gavin**
 - Provide a copy of our 2019 return--**Jo Ellen**
 - Email Jo Ellen Brief Bios and preferred headshot for webpage--**Gavin** and **Bethany**
 - Financial policy like two signatures on checks over \$500--**Jo Ellen**