

Swatara Watershed Association
Meeting minutes from Wednesday, January 5th, 2022

Call to order: President Canner called the meeting to order virtually via Google Meets at 9:33 a.m

Attendance: Present were President Bethany Canner, Vice President Mike Adams, Secretary Fred Folmer, Past President Jo Ellen Litz, and Board member Jack Stouffer. There were no other persons in attendance.

Approval of minutes: Canner moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting on Wednesday, December 1st, 2021. Adams seconded and the motion carried.

Financial Matters:

There was no financial report.

A \$50 fee was paid to the PA Dept. of Environmental Protection for public drinking water approval. (There is no exemption for nonprofits).

Current officers must sign documents at the bank. Most will do so at the Jonestown Bank & Trust, Cleona Branch, at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, January 7th, 2022.

A \$70 fee was submitted to the PA Dept. of Corporations and Charitable Organizations Decennial Report. The SWA address needed to be updated which required a Board vote to approve. Folmer so moved, Adams seconded and the motion carried. The form will be submitted to the state along with the \$5 fee. Also, nonprofits are required to submit an annual report whenever officers change. Canner will submit the required report.

\$5000 Facebook Network for Good Grant: Litz volunteered to follow up.

A yearly membership of \$20 was received from Stephanie Dobroski.

Old Business:

Swatara Watershed Park: Canner will contact the four bowhunters who have tree stands in the park to remind them that the stands must be removed within one week after the late archery season ends on January 17th, 2022.

Campsite rental fee: There was a discussion regarding the fee charged for campsite rentals in the park. It currently stands at \$450 for the camping season with a cleanup surcharge of \$50 if applicable. Adams suggested checking with other local campgrounds for fee comparison. Litz reported there is a graduated fee structure for nightly, weekly and monthly camping.

Culverts: Canner will get estimates for upgrading the culvert at the park entrance and also the one draining the small creek at the entrance to campsite #1.

Border Cabin: Litz mentioned the possible need to reseal the flashing around the chimney and to continue looking for grants to help pay for repairs. Litz and Canner will try to schedule a meeting with the Swatara State Park Supervisor to introduce the new SWA president.

Swatara Water Trail: Canner and Adams will try to meet with Mr. Emrich to discuss upgrading the launch site which is on his property.

Lebanon Valley Rail Trail: Litz reported having met with Jay Green regarding maps for the rail trail. She advised that it might take as long as two years to acquire them.

New Business:

2022 Swatara Sojourn: There was a lengthy discussion regarding whether or not to host the Sojourn for 2022, and if so, as to what format it might have. Considerations mentioned were:

- Canner will not be available on the first full weekend of May which has traditionally been the date of the Sojourn; she has a prior commitment on May 7th and 8th but is available on May 1st, and
- POWR Grant only funds an overnight, multiday sojourn, and
- must register with PA Fish and Boat Commission for approval, and
- must notify 911 for emergency responder coverage, and
- would not be able to provide shuttle service for participants because transporting people shoulder-to-shoulder in a 15 passenger van would not be in keeping with covid social distancing protocols, and
- due to covid, special precautions would be necessary for the providing and handling of food, and
- taking into account the time line needed to implement some of the above:

Folmer moved, and Stouffer seconded, to sponsor a one day Sojourn on Sunday, May 1st, 2022 except if there would be a spike in covid virus infections similar to what is being experienced at the current time. The motion carried.

Meeting Day/Time: Canner inquired of the attendees re a possible change in the day and time of SWA meetings. It was suggested that there might be a more convenient time to hold the meeting to make it possible for other current members, and/or potential new members, to attend. She will contact some qualified persons who have expressed an interest in joining the SWA but cannot attend meetings on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. No change was decided upon at the meeting.

Website Transfer & Google Account: The SWA website will be transferred to Canner which will require a new hosting service. Her home address will be the physical location of the SWA. A Google account for nonprofits has been established.

Records Transfer: Litz will be transferring all documents, books, maps etc to Canner.

Environmental Oversight: There was a brief discussion of the SWA 's role with regard to environmentally impactful technologies such as wind turbines, solar farms and gas pipelines. The general consensus was that the SWA should monitor such things when possible, serving as "watchdogs" and report concerns to the proper authorities and bodies tasked to respond to such considerations.

Adjournment: At 10:59 a.m. Folmer made a motion to adjourn. Stouffer seconded and the motion carried. The day, time and location of the February meeting will be announced.

Minutes submitted by Fred Folmer,
SWA Secretary