

Swatara Watershed Association, Inc.  
Meeting Minutes. March 2, 2022

Call to Order: President Canner called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. via Google Meet.

Attendance: Board members present were Bethany Canner, Mike Adams, Fred Folmer and Jack Stouffer. There were no other persons present.

Approval of Minutes: There were no minutes to approve. (Secretary Folmer had been unable to connect to the previous online virtual meeting.)

Financial Report: Having just received it, Canner will email the report to Board members. It will be subject to audit.

Old Business: The agenda included the following reports and updates:

Swatara Watershed Park: 1. The email vote resulted in favor of increasing the seasonal camping fee \$25 from \$450 to \$475. 2. Canner has discussed the culvert repair/replacement with two companies but no bids have yet been received.

Bordner Cabin: An application for a Lebanon County Hotel Tax grant for foundation repairs was submitted to the Lebanon County Commissioners. The grant sought is for \$39,750 with a total project cost of \$53,000 and a 25% match is required. Commissioners received the grant but were waiting until the newly appointed commissioner was seated to take action.

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources: Canner, Adams and Jo Ellen Litz met with Lori Yeich to discuss possible grants for the improvement of the Emrich launch on the Swatara Water Trail. Although the meeting was cordial and cooperative, it is not currently the time to apply for a grant. Also, the SWA would need to receive a commitment for a minimum use of 25 years for the property and that has not been forthcoming.

Swatara Sojourn Planning: The sojourn is planned for Sunday, May 1st, 2022 to launch at Swatara Watershed Park and end at Boathouse Road. A POWR mini-grant application has been submitted for a maximum of \$500. We received a

\$200 donation from Sheetz and an in-kind product donation from the Hershey Company. A participant registration form has been posted on the SWA website - [swatarawatershed.org](http://swatarawatershed.org). Participants are able to pay online or by check. A link to the website has been posted on Facebook. For hauling the trash picked up out of the creek, Canner offered her personal 14 foot utility trailer. Folmer offered to haul the trailer with his personal vehicle. Adams will contact Derry Township re the possibility of providing a dumpster at the Boathouse Road launch. Barring that, we would need to contact a licensed refuse hauler. Canner and Adams each offered to provide a large passenger van to shuttle participants from their parked vehicles at Boathouse Road back to the SWA Park on the day of the event. Adams will give the safety talk prior to launching and procure experienced paddlers for the lead and sweep watercraft. Canner suggested the program of "50 Years of the Clean Water Act" and a brief seminar of riparian buffers at the lunch break. There will be first aid/medical kits with the experienced paddlers. The registration monies will be used for the midday lunch. The lunch details will be determined at the next meeting.

#### New Business:

Reimbursement: Canner submitted receipts requested reimbursement for canoe registrations (8 @ \$24 = \$192) and 3 years website Basic Wordpress web hosting (\$251.82). Folmer so moved, Adams seconded and it was approved. Since there was not a quorum, by consensus it was felt there should be an online follow-up vote.

Swatara Watershed Park: United Way Day of Caring - April 23, 2022; 9 a.m. to 12 noon - park trash and landscape clean-up. Folmer volunteered to supervise and Stouffer volunteered to assist.

Bordner Cabin: United Way Day of Caring - April 23, 2022; 9 a.m. to 12 noon - cabin trash and surrounding grounds clean-up. Canner will try to find a volunteer to supervise.

Swatara Water Trail: Canner met with DCNR's Courtney Troutman, Memorial Lake/Swatara State Park Supervisor, to discuss a Water Trail sign for the Lickdale launch. She was informed that launch is part of a land deal which

has not yet been finalized. DCNR is not allowing additional signage to be installed until the deal is formally completed.

Resignation: Jo Ellen Litz officially resigned from the Board of Directors on February 8, 2022.

Visit Lebanon Valley: VLV has offered the SWA \$1000 in advertising funds for Cooperative Marketing with VLV. The funds may be used for print or online advertising, signage etc. All advertising must be co-branded with VLV's logo.

Tree Planting: A tree planting is scheduled at 1851 Blacks Bridge Road, Annville for April 9, 2022.

Canoe/Trailer Rental: Boy Scout Troop #23 has requested to rent a full trailer of canoes for March 25, 2022. Considering the temperature of the water and the potential for high/swift water flow that time of year, there was a discussion as to whether it would be responsible for the SWA to grant the request. No definite decision was made and Canner &/or Adams will have a further discussion with the scout leaders.

Misc.: Folmer reported he had received a mileage reimbursement check for \$27.56 from RSVP and is donating it to the SWA. He also reported he has not heard anything from the Upper Little Swatara WIP for several months.

Adjournment: At 11:10 a.m., Folmer made a motion to adjourn. Stouffer seconded and the motion carried.

Minutes submitted by Fred Folmer, SWA Secretary