

Swatara Watershed Association Inc.
Meeting Minutes. April 6, 2022

Call to order: President Canner called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. under the pavilion at Swatara Watershed Park

Attendance: Board members present were Jack Stouffer, Bethany Canner, Mike Adams and Fred Folmer. Member Jo Ellen Litz was also in attendance. There were no other persons present.

Approval of minutes: Adams made a motion to accept the minutes from March 2, 2022 as submitted. Stouffer seconded and the motion carried.

Financials: No treasurer's report had been received. Canner reported that Bender's Bookkeeping submitted a bid of \$400.00 to do the 2021 taxes and related financial statements which was the same cost as the previous year. Folmer moved to engage that firm's services. Stouffer seconded and the motion carried.

Old Business:

United Way Day of Caring: Folmer will supervise the United Way volunteers at SWA Park on Saturday, April 23rd from 9:00 a.m. to noon to pick up trash and do general landscape cleanup. There will also be recruitment for the seasonal grass cutting crew. Litz volunteered to supervise the United Way volunteers for similar cleanup at the Bordner Cabin in Swatara State Park.

Lebanon Hotel Tax Grant: Canner reported that the grant had been approved for the amount of \$39,750 to make repairs under the porch at the Bordner Cabin. Along with funds of \$13,250.00 from SWA the sum of \$53,000 will be available. Woodland Contractors has been approached to do the repairs. Their estimate has not yet been revised.

Bordner Cabin/DCNR: Canner will be meeting with Courtney Troutman, Supervisor of Swatara State Park and Memorial Lake Park, on Thursday, April 7, 2022 to discuss the cabin. It was suggested that some minor roof maintenance might be necessary. The SWA will provide the service of a porta-pottie from May 1st thru October 31st at the cabin.

Swatara Water Trail: The Swatara Sojourn is planned for Sunday, May 1st beginning at SWA Park and ending at Boathouse Road Park near Hershey, Pa. A POWR minigrant request, for a maximum of \$500, has been submitted but no announcement of its granting has yet been made. Canner reported that the Fish & Boat permit was granted. In addition to the logistics previously determined, other plans for the sojourn were set:

We will meet at SWA park at 8:00 a.m. on May 1st; breakfast will be provided for participants using the donations received from Sheetz and The Hershey Corporation;

Folmer will tow Canner's utility trailer to haul the trash collected from the creek; He will also supply a long rope to tether the water craft at the lunch break; (the lunch break location to be determined);

Litz volunteered to haul the food for lunch; it was suggested to try to get a variety of hoagies from Bruno's of Lebanon as on a previous sojourn;

Adams reported that Bob Piccolo, Boat House Road Park Supervisor, will see to the disposal of the trash collected from the creek;

The Greater Lebanon Refuse Authority will provide a trailer to dispose of any vehicle tires recovered from the creek;

Visit Lebanon Valley (VLV) offered SWA \$1,000 in advertising funds for cooperating marketing with VLV. VLV has an ongoing ad campaign to promote the sojourn. Furthermore, a co-branded utensil novelty is being provided by VLV.

Letters of support for the sojourn were received from Lebanon City and Annville Township.

Canoe Rental: After a discussion with Boy Scout Troop 23, the troop decided not to rent canoes because of the time of year and the possibility of dangerous water conditions.

New Business:

SWA Park Tree Planting: President Canner requested a live stake planting of dogwood trees in a northern section of SWA Park on Saturday, April 9, 2022. This would be done in conjunction with an organization called "Greening Susquehanna Valley." Stuffer moved her request, Adams seconded and the motion carried.

Swatara Water Trail: A letter of support for "Greenways and Trails Plan" was received from South Hanover Township.

Errata:

Charles Cravatta resigned from the Board of Directors on March 17, 2022.

SWA sent a letter of support to PA Sea Grant. Sea Grant provides education and implementation for the conversion of small lawns to natural vegetation/native plant species.

SWA recieved \$1,000 from the Nelson and Beverly Kornstein Foundation, Inc.; those monies will be deposited into the general fund;

SWA Park; Canner and Adams reported there are some dead/dying trees which need to be removed; some large ones might need to be brought down by a professional;

Folmer reported he had not heard anything from the Upper Little Swatara WIP;

There was a discussion concerning the Lebanon County Conservation District's proposal of a per acre fee on farmland developed for commercial or other non-farming purposes. The consensus was that we needed to know more about the proposal. Canner will write up a response to be decided upon by an internet vote.

Adjournment: At 11:05 a.m. Folmer made a motion to adjourn. Stouffer seconded and the motion carried.

Minutes submitted by Fred Folmer, SWA Secretary.