

CLEARFIELD CREEK WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF MEETING
March 18, 2003

The meeting was called to order at the St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Ashville by President John Strittmatter at 6:30 PM, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Twelve members were in attendance.

The **minutes** of the meeting of February 18, 2003 were approved as written.

The **Treasurer**, Larry Sutton, reported that Grant Account, with an initial balance of \$3806.69, was increased by transfer of \$1000.00 of the Fish Fund from the General Account, and \$0.48 of interest, and decreased by a payment of \$625 to Mahaffey Labs for analyses of water samples, to leave a balance of \$4182.17. The General Account, with an initial balance of \$4244.49, was increased by dues payments of \$90.00 and interest of \$0.32, and decreased by transfer out of the Fish Fund, to leave a balance of \$3334.81. An additional \$235 from member dues is available for deposit, but \$10 will be refunded to a member who paid twice. Bryan Rabish reported that the Growing Greener grant administered by the Conservation district has now been completely spent for equipment, office supplies, postage and other expenses. It was moved by Bryan Rabish and seconded by Ray Hollen that the Treasurer's report be approved, and was unanimously approved.

The **Secretary**, Arthur Rose, reported that notices about dues status were sent to all members for which we have a valid address. For the following 2002 members we do not have addresses: Jerry Dietrich, Bobby Eyers, Timothy Fleegeer, Homer Krug, James Lidwell (Life Member), Daniel McMullen (Life member), Dave McMullen (Life member), and Frank Smithmyer. Also several notices came back with incorrect or expired addresses (Tony Sundie, Dennis Demchak). Alene Smithmyer provided an address for Dan McMullen, and other members will check.

The Secretary now has a filing cabinet, Hewlett-Packard Officejet d135 copier-printer-scanner-FAX with extra ink cartridges, file folders, paper, envelopes and stamps from the Conservation District Growing Greener grant.

John Strittmatter reported a quote from Staples for 1000 membership cards for \$38.50, or smaller amounts for 400 or 100 cards. It was moved and unanimously approved to obtain 1000 cards, and a perforating device. At the suggestion of Bryan Rabish, the Treasurer will obtain a state sales tax exemption.

The **Membership** Chair, Bob Funicelli, reported 23 new or renewed members, with more to come.

The **Public Relations** Chair, Pat McNulty, reported that articles reporting our membership drive and activities appeared recently in the Altoona Mirror, the Mainline, and the Johnstown paper.

The **Finance Committee**, Earl Smithmyer and Larry Sutton, briefly mentioned the need for ideas for money-raising projects this year. The possibility of selling some caps and T-shirts at the Fish Stocking of March 26 was mentioned. John Dawes, the Director of the Heinz Foundation from which we received the Analytical Grant, will visit at this time, and is to be given a hat and shirt.

The **Tech Committee** chair, Arthur Rose, reported that two subgroups (C and E) will collect their last monthly sample in the next few weeks. Subgroup A will finish in May, and Subgroup E in June.

Discussion with a person familiar with Growing Greener grants indicates that letters of support from State Representatives and Senators are sometimes very significant for success. The Secretary will provide Pat McNulty a letter and information for forwarding to State Legislators.

The Growing Greener proposal submitted by Killam (Hatch) for stream bank restoration lists the Association address as the obsolete Post Office Box. The secretary will send a change

of address to DEP. Also, the amount for Association administration is \$2000, less than the possible amount of 2% of the \$193,245 applied for. In the future we should check over these proposals for such items.

Stephanie Wharton reported on a DEP meeting at which Growing Greener grants were discussed. The Killens stream bank proposal did not receive much support, but the Little Laurel Run proposal was favorably regarded. This meeting is but one of many evaluation steps.

Old Business

The **stream and road cleanup** is scheduled for April 6 at 9 AM at the Laurel Run Sportsmans Club. A lunch is to be provided by Alene Smithmyer. Earl Smithmyer will put notices in newspapers. Members are urged to attend and bring friends, because some usual workers have another project.

The **coal refuse project** now has a list of 16 possible sites. Max Scheeler is to contact cogen representatives, but was not present at the meeting. Arthur Rose suggested contact with Rusty Taylor of Robindale Energy to find out what sites they have already sampled or have rights to, and how to promote activity on our sites.

An **aerial photo mosaic** of the area was prepared by John Strittmatter. Members have placed colored dots on mine drainage monitoring sites, and will mark coal refuse sites.

A proposed change in the procedure for **amendment of Bylaws** was provided by Arthur Rose (attached). The change would require notification of members of any proposed change, and provision for members to recommend changes. It was moved by Ed McMullen and seconded by Larry Sutton that the Directors should make this change. This will be done by the beginning of the next meeting.

New Business

Arthur Rose brought up a list of **speakers** provided by the Susquehanna River Basin Commission, and enquired whether we wanted a speaker, possibly on macroinvertebrate sampling. It was concluded that a speaker would make for a long meeting. Bryan Rabish offered to demonstrate macroinvertebrate sampling.

Earl Smithmyer reported that we have no more extra **conductivity meters** and asked if we needed more. After discussion, it was concluded that we can complete the remaining monthly sampling and would have funds from the Little Laurel proposal for more, if it is funded. We still have one pH meter.

Stephanie Wharton reported on an **exhibit** of CCWA scenes and activities at the Wildlife Art Show in Westmont. CCWA brochures were handed out. The display can be turned over to CCWA. She and Bryan suggested that we may want to obtain a portable folding display board for this and other events. Bryan Rabish will check on the cost, possibly \$200-300.

A possible grant for **cleaning litter and trash in flood plain** areas was brought up by Earl Smithmyer. A site near the church near Frugality was mentioned as a possibility. Ray Hollen and Ed McMullen will check on this site.

The **next meeting** is scheduled for April 15 at the church in Ashville at 6:30 PM.

The meeting was **adjourned** on a motion by Pat McNulty, followed by cookies and coffee supplied by Alene Smithmyer.