

LETORT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
415 Franklin Street
Carlisle, PA 17013

MINUTES OF THE LETORT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
May 18, 2006

The meeting was held on Thursday, May 18, 2006 at the Carlisle Community Center. Shirley Ruhl called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present: Mr. Keith Bailey, Mr. David Baric, Mr. Richard Darr, Mr. John Greenbaum, Mr. Chris Houston, Ms. Lauren Imgrund, Mr. Erich Messerschmidt, Mr. James Richenderfer, Ms. Shirley Ruhl, Mr. Tom Stenehjem, and Mr. Herb Weigl.

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Mr. John Broujos, Mr. Brian Fischbach, Mr. Chris Nenninger, and Ms. Kathy Russell

Staff Absent: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Chris Houston made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 18, 2006 meeting; Dave seconded the motion - the motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS - The presentation scheduled for Co-Energy was withdrawn. No presentations given.

STAFF REPORTS:

Solicitor -

Chris read a letter dated May 17, 2006, authored by John Broujos researching whether the authority could pursue imposing a fee for the review of development plans. John recommends that the authority not pursue this avenue of adopting our own regulations and imposing a fee for review, but that we ask for the municipalities to adopt or amend their existing ordinance to have us act as an agent on their behalf.

The Project Plan Review Committee will review the history from the past several years to determine the average number of plans reviewed each year and the amount of time spent reviewing each plan.

A sub-committee consisting of Jim, Erich, and John Greenbaum, will work with John Broujos to draft a letter to be presented, in person, to all municipalities and the county requesting that they initiate an ordinance to adapt a fee schedule and indicate that the LRA is acting as an agent for their township in reviewing the plans. The private sector would be paying the fee for the plan reviews directly to the LRA.

Administrative -

As of April 28, 2006, Mr. Herb Weigl from the Cold Springs Anglers Fly Shop has been appointed as Middlesex Township's delegate to the LRA.

Brian introduced Chris Nenninger to the group. With Brian mentoring, Chris will becoming accustomed to the functions of the LRA so that he can perform some of the duties on behalf of Fischbach Morgan.

Tom submitted the May '06 bills for payment:

<u>Receipts</u> -	\$0
<u>May 2006 – Bills Requiring Approval:</u>	
Brian L. Fischbach -- Executive Director services and expenses	\$479.97
Kathy Russell (Recording Secretary)	\$ 90.00
Sprint	\$ 33.31
Petty Cash Reimbursement (LeTort Day)	\$ 29.18
TOTAL bills requiring approval	\$632.46

Dave made a motion to approve payment of the expenses for May; Dick seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Tom noted that he received \$150 for petty cash fund; however, Tom preferred not to hold a petty cash fund since he is already the treasurer. Therefore, those funds were absorbed into the checking account. Any future petty cash reimbursement requests will be drawn out of the checking account.

Treasurer's Report:

Tom submitted the authority's financial summary account balances as follows:

Petty Cash: Beginning balance of \$0 - transferred to checking account – (Dec.) pending installation of new Executive Director; absorbed into monthly bill expenditures. – Leaving a \$0 balance in Petty Cash.

Checking Account: Beginning balance of \$100; add transfer from Savings (May bills) +\$632.46, minus payment of approved bills (May) - \$632.46 – Leaving a balance of \$100.00

Savings Account: The beginning balance is \$38.74; minus bank (annual) charge – deposit box -\$20.00; maintain \$25.00 minimum balance +\$6.26; leaving a closing balance of \$25.00 for April 2006.

Money Mgmt. - Growing Greener (Grant) Account: Beginning balance is \$23,430.48; add interest for April '06 (1.75% annum) +\$33.96; transfer to Checking Account -\$632.46; transfer to Commercial Savings -\$6.26; leaving a closing balance of \$22,825.72.

GRAND TOTAL: \$22,825.72

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance / Budget

Tom commented that each year the deposit box charge of \$20 will be deducted from the commercial savings account, which will require transfer of that amount from the money management account to maintain the \$25.00 minimum balance.

The budget aligns and there are no comments.

Easement & Nature Trail (Jim Richenderfer – Chairperson)

- Keystone Arms Easement / Property – Dave, Brian, and Chris N. attended a meeting of the Keystone Arms. Dave presented a drawing showing real estate that Keystone is proposing to deed over to the LRA. Keystone is proposing to retain about half an acre for a playground area. Keystone anticipates building the trail within 3-4 years and turning the trail over to the LRA. The only stipulation that Keystone had was; after the property is deeded over to us, we would not preclude their residence from coming onto the property.

Chris made a motion that we contact the representative of the owners of Keystone Arms to let them know we are interested in a fee simple donation of this tract of land. Dave seconded the motion and the motion carried. Dave will contact Keystone Arms.

- Willow Crossing Condominium Association – Dick spoke with Mike Adler's office. Willow Crossing is going to do some paving at the condo association and they will bring up the idea of giving us a right-of-way or easement at the June meeting.

Water Quality (Lauren Ingram - Chairperson) – Lauren reported that a yearlong research study on the vegetation of the Letort has been completed by one of the Dickinson students. Lauren will share the results of this research at the next meeting. Brian, Chris & Keith requested a copy of the summarized data on this study.

Project Review - (Erich Messerschmidt – Chairperson)

- Limestone Creek – Brian spoke with Steve Tiley about the proposed changes. Brian reviewed the plan and had no comment or issues with the plan. South Middleton, however, viewed the changes significant enough to have the process repeated.
- Forgedale Crossing – Erich reviewed and had no comments. Brian will send a letter to the township stating that we had no comments.

Long Range Planning - (Chris Houston – Chairperson) – Chris suggested that the word "Retreat" be removed from future meeting agendas, and "Friends of The LeTort" and "the land partnerships grants" be added to the agenda.

- Community Outreach Action Plan - Lauren reported that another "Friends of The LeTort" meeting was held in May. The turnout was disappointing, but the people who did show up were very active. The structure of the "Friends of The LeTort". The outcome was that we would leave it as an unincorporated association until and if more activities happen. Most of the people expressed an interest in "hands on" work. Erich encouraged Les Wallace to come up with types of signs and locations to place the signs along the LeTort that would display some of the stream's history. The next "Friends" meeting will be held on Thursday, June 8 at the Carlisle Jaycee's building at 7:00. Lauren will send out the notice on this meeting.
- Trail Improvement / Trail Expansion / Concise Corridor Master Plan - Chris reported that grant applications were submitted for both the Trail Improvement Grant for existing trail and the Multi-Jurisdictional Application for all four municipalities to plan for potential expansion of the existing trail.

Chris spoke with Kirk Stoner, the County Planner, who said that they really liked our "Master Trail Plan". Chris felt that this grant was going to be funded, but he didn't feel that the other grant would pass.

- Educational Activities – Jim continues to work on his presentation.

Public Relations / History – (Dick Darr – Chairperson) - Dick reported that the Biddle Mission stream area has a lot of trash and should be considered as a clean up project for the "Friends of Letort" group.

Public Comments - None

OLD BUSINESS -

Brian reported that he received a call from a woman at the Church of God Home complaining about trash along the stream, specifically a mattress in the stream between their property and the Carlisle Barracks. Keith will check with Barrack personnel to make sure this property is accessible to clean without trespassing. Keith will report back to Brian.

- Cumberland County Land Partnerships Grant Application

Implementation / Trail Improvement Grant – This matter was covered above under Long Range Planning / Trail Improvement / Trail Expansion / Concise Corridor Master Plan.

- Building Committee – Chris received an e-mail from Fred Beam asking if we would consider using the building without the borough reducing our monetary commitment and getting it rent-free as long as we cover the expenses. Brian said there would be no additional insurance expense for using this building. Chris responded to Fred saying that we were interested, however, Fred said that he thought he had received another offer to rent the building, but he wasn't sure it was going to work. Fred will let us know in June if the offer is still available to us.

NEW BUSINESS –

Keith reported:

- there's a problem with some trees pushing in a wall located just downstream from Webster on borough property. The borough will be notified;
- GMH Authority will be starting a new family housing project in 2007. Keith will bring in the building plans for this development for our review; and
- The Barracks has approval from the state to repair 5-6 sinkholes along the LeTort.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA -

Shirley reported that Tom Colestock will be joining the LRA as the North Middleton representative.

Thank you, farewell, and good luck to Shirley. Tonight will be her last meeting before she departs for her two-year move to Bologna, Italy.

Tom made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Herb seconded the motion - the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p. m.

NEXT MEETING -

The next regular meeting of the LeTort Regional Authority is scheduled for Thursday, June 15, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. to be held at the Carlisle Community Center in Carlisle, PA.

Date Adopted

Dave Baric, Secretary

Prepared by: Kathy L. Russell, Recording Secretary