

LETORT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
415 Franklin Street
Carlisle, PA 17013

MINUTES OF THE LETORT REGIONAL AUTHORITY
March 17, 2016

The meeting was held on Thursday, March 17, 2016, at the Carlisle Community Center. Andy Parker called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Members / Representatives

Present: Dennis Burkett, Andy Parker, James Ruhl, Holly Smith, and Herb Weigl

Members

Representatives Absent: Bill Berwick, Sandy Kern, and Lorin Snyder

Staff Present:

Kathy Russell

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

PRESENTATIONS - None

ANNOUNCEMENT -

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Dennis made a motion to approve the February minutes with one revision. Holly seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Administrator - (Kathy Russell) - No report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance / Budget - (Herb Weigl)

Monthly Financial Status

The memorandum of bills is as follows:

Receipts:

Current Month	
Plan Review Fee.....	+\$500.00
Municipal Contributions.....	+\$3,500.00
Prior month Interest.....	+9.83
TOTAL RECEIPTS.....	+\$4,009.83

Bills Requiring Approval:

Administrator.....	-\$300.00
Seller's Tree Service.....	-\$250.00
PennPRIME.....	975.00
TOTAL BILLS requiring approval.....	\$1,275.00

Herb received a phone call from Middlesex Township. Historically, we have been receiving their contribution in September. They wanted to make their contribution now.

Herb made a motion that the March monthly bills in the amount of \$1,275.00 be approved for payment. James seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

BANK ASSET ACCOUNTS:

BUSINESS CHECKING ACCOUNT (07)

Beginning Balance	\$100.00
Transfer from Business Savings Acct.....	+\$1,525.00
Paid bills	-\$1,525.00
Closing Account Balance	\$100.00

BUSINESS SAVINGS ACCOUNT (00) GENERAL FUND

Beginning Balance	\$12,431.34
Plan Review Fee.....	+\$100.00
Municipal Contribution	3,500.00
Interest.....	+\$.52
Plan Review fee.....	\$400.00
Transfer to Checking.....	-\$1,525.00
Closing Account Balance.....	\$14,906.86

BUSINESS MONEY MGMT SAVINGS, FRIENDS OF THE LETORT

Beginning Balance	\$7,941.15	
Interest.....	<u>+\$.32</u>	
Closing Account Balance.....		\$7,941.47

BUSINESS SUPPLEMENTAL SAVINGS, SOUTH MOUNTAIN PARTNERSHIP GRANT

Beginning Balance	\$.03	
Closing Account Balance.....		\$.03

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT #40 (24 Month)

Beginning Balance	\$5,069.92	
Interest.....	<u>+\$4.99</u>	
Closing Account Balance.....		\$5,074.91

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT #42 (19 Month)

Beginning Balance	\$5,028.71	
Interest.....	<u>+\$4.00</u>	
Closing Account Balance.....		\$5,032.71

TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS ON DEPOSIT:..... **\$33,055.98**

Budget Report

- Herb charged the \$250.00 for tree service to the trail maintenance line item.

Friends of LeTort – James Ruhl

- One new contribution was received this evening.
- James has written a statement to place on our website stating that contributions to the Friends group are tax deductible.
- Andy noted that when Sandy was contacting businesses soliciting support for Friends, she contact Market Cross Pub. They were not interested in giving a financial donation, but they offered to hold a fundraiser for us, presumably on Earth Day – Friday, April 22. Andy will contact Sandy to see if she can follow up with Market Cross so we can make plans.
- Andy mocked up a window sticker to be used for supporters of the Friends group.
(Proud Sponsor with the LRA logo and Friends of the LeTort / LeTort Regional Authority w/website address)
Andy will re-do the design and send it to everyone for their approval.

Grants – Andy Parker

- SMP Mini-Grant Schedule and status – Andy sent an email to Katie Hess at SMP asking about the status of this grant and asking if there was any additional information needed from the LRA to close out our mini-grant. He has not yet received a response.

Herb has been contacted by Jerry Gapp inquiring about this grant. Jerry has offered to contact Katie. Herb will call Jerry and let him know it is all right to contact Ms. Hess on behalf of the LRA.
- Cumberland Valley Visitors Bureau mini-grant – approved for trail counters only.
Andy was out on the trail cleaning leaves and debris from the bridges and noticed that one trail counter had mud and leaves stuck into the eye cam. Andy cleaned the mud out as best as he could and sent an email to Allen asking if he could open up the counter and clean it out again and check the other counter.
- Faulkner Subaru Donation – for trail map printing. Andy reported that we received a proof of the trail map from Rowe's Print Shop. We will wait to get the maps printed until we receive a check from Faulkner Subaru.

Audit – James Ruhl – No update

Information and Education – Holly Smith –

- Public Speaking – None Scheduled
- CVTC report – (in scheduled months) –
- Website –
 - Holly continues to work on updating this site.
 - Holly asked Dennis to provide personal information and a photo.
- Facebook - Holly is trying to link the FB page so that other groups can post on this site and connect themselves.
Holly has contacted the following companies for bids to update our website:
 - Cross and Crown – Bid of \$3,000 (they created the website for SMP)
 - GXC – Waiting for a response (they created the website for the CPC)
 - Jordan Crown – No responseAndy asked Dennis to acquire additional information on these bids.

Items that we would like to see added to our website:

- stream data updated
- map of watershed
- update information to the residences along the LeTort on how to care for their property.
- updated history / photo page.

James suggested we have Mike Blumenthal's information removed from the website.

Nature Trail – Holly Smith –

- Trail maintenance –
 - Holly reported a tree north of I-81 is down but manageable.
 - Andy reported that the bad tree to the south of the tributary bridge has been taken down.
 - Andy will walk the trail this weekend to check it out.
- Tree Cleanup Completed

Long-Range Planning & Easements - Andy Parker

- Cumberland Conservation Collaborative report (Herb) – There is a meeting on Monday, March 21st at 6:00 p.m. Herb is unable to attend. Andy volunteered to attend this meeting as a representative of the LRA.
- CPC is still working on the purchase of the Burgoon property
 - Holly attended the Trout Unlimited meeting last night and reported that donations are still being accepted for the purchase of this property.
 - They are waiting for a grant approval to move forward with this purchase.
 - They are presuming that the sale will be finalized.

Holly reported:

- The CPC is putting together a group to ponder the restoration of the wetlands. Mary Beth Delucia and Brad Mower from The Nature Conservancy (TNC) have wetland restoration money through several different funding sources to work in four states. Their funds can be a match, and they want to do a lot of work with the design. They are searching for documentation on the condition of the stream before the watercress beds were planted. The LRA will provide them with several reports to give them some background information.
- TNC members are willing to put in a few hours a month to come up with some options for how to make this restoration work and to raise some money to pay for an engineering study.

Stream Ecology – Bill Berwick

- ALLARM report and analysis – No report

Project Review - Andy Parker – Andy will copy the members from the municipalities on plan reviews for their township.

- Stonehedge Lot C2 – Andy reviewed and commented.
- Hamilton Elementary School – Andy reviewed and commented.
 - We received a \$100.00 fee for the review of this plan. Andy asked if we wanted to waive this fee since it was the school district. After a brief discussion, it was determined that the majority in attendance agreed to keep the fee.
- Union Quarry – Andy reviewed and commented on this plan.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Board Vacancies – Cumberland County and Middlesex Township. Andy will follow up with the county.
 - Andy will follow up with the county.
 - Herb reported that Middlesex Township republished the article on this vacancy in its last newsletter. Herb will follow up.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Sunoco Mariner East 2 Pipeline – Herb drafted a letter to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) outlining our concerns about the project and asking the DEP to assure that the environment is considered and the project's impacts will be minimized. Andy will sign and mail the letter.
- UGI Pipeline – Andy did some research and sent out the agreement to James and Lorin for review. Andy finds the agreement to be one-sided. He will make comments and is still reviewing recommendations issued from the state.
 - Andy attended the Cold Water Conference in State College presented by Trout Unlimited.
 - The keynote speaker noted that utilities have some flexibility on the width of the corridor needed for a pipeline.
 - We can direct the utilities on the types of seeds to use to restore the pipeline corridor.
 - Andy researched the county tax mapper.
 - The assessed property value of the adjacent hotel is \$41.4 million for an approximately 7-acre property, which is \$195,500 per acre.
 - The LRA's two parcels have an assessed value of:
 - \$83,900 or \$38,000 per acre for the 2.19-acre parcel
 - \$50,900 or \$43,500 per acre for the 1.7-acre parcel

- o Roughly \$40,000 per acre between the two.
- The adjacent Crouch property is assessed at \$140,800 for an 8-acre parcel or \$17,000 per acre.
- Other parcels moving south along South Spring Garden Street and the LeTort, including a few more of our parcels, as well as the Trout Unlimited parcel, all averaged between \$17,000 to \$20,000 per acre.

COMMENTS AND CONCERNS:

- o Would we want to donate any money we get from entering into this easement transaction to the CPC for the purchase of the Burgoon property?
 - If we agree to make this agreement with UGI for \$1, then UGI would agree to make a contribution to the CPC toward the purchase of the Burgoon property.
- o Herb suggested that we consider taking this money to establish an endowment to maintain the nature trail.
- o This easement agreement should be limited to the proposed 12-inch line and the repair of that line, but any other issues should be addressed separately.
- o Identify the specific type of construction and the limits of disturbance.
- o Limit or reduce the 30-foot width.
- o Limit or reduce the construction easements.
- o Not have the above-ground gas line markers.
- o Specifically identify the location of the easement.
- o Place the easement or gas line as close to I-81 and the overhead powerline as possible.
- o Restore easement with native species that have wildlife value.
- o Maintain the easement by mechanical means only – no use of herbicides.
- o Limit access to the easement only.
- o Minimize the types of future construction.
- o UGI should be asked to maintain the easement area.
- o Ask UGI to incur our costs for attorney's fees.

James made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dennis seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the LeTort Regional Authority is scheduled for Thursday, April 21, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. at the Carlisle Community Center in Carlisle, PA.

4/21/16
Date Adopted

Sandy Kern
Sandy Kern/Secretary

Prepared by: Kathy L. Russell