

DELAWARE WATER RESOURCES REGIONAL
COMMITTEE MEETING

May 11, 2007
9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association
12 Morris Road
Ambler, PA 19002

DRAFT Meeting Summary

Attendance

Committee members in attendance:

Carol R. Collier	Michael Meloy
Jeff Featherstone	Arthur Needham
Allen Fidler	Howard Neukrug
Hon. Kate Harper	Barbara Smith
Helen Haun	Pete Snyder
John Hoekstra	Michael Stokes
M. Irvil Kear	Maya van Rossum
Preston Luitweiler	Robert Wendelgass

Committee members not in attendance:

Julie Lyn Gallisdorfer
Desiree Henning-Dudley
Darryl Jenkins
Gary M. B. Kribbs

Others in attendance:

Rob Cavett – Merck & Co.	David Jostenksi – DEP
Michelle Clark – DEP, SERO	Rea Monaghan – Bucks Co. Planning Comm.
Bharat Bham – DEP, NERO/BDO	Ian Palmer – Schuylkill Headwaters Assn.
Bill Gast – DEP	Ken Najjar – DRBC
Dave Gordon – Bucks Co. Planning Comm.	Leslie Sarvis – DEP
Molly Hesson – Phila. Water Dept.	Andy Schweitzer – DEP, NERO
Jason Hunt – Phila. Water Dept.	Andrew Zemba – DEP
Ralph Jacobi – citizen	

Welcome and Introductions

Chair Carol R. Collier called the meeting to order at 9:30am. Committee members and guests introduced themselves. Also introduced was new committee member Pete Snyder, who is representing the Wayne County Conservation District. Randy Gray, Executive Director of WVWA welcomed the committee and talked about the importance of the Wissahickon watershed in the Delaware Basin.

Regional Action Agenda

As follow-up to the conference calls held before the May 11 meeting to continue refining the Regional Action Agenda, the committee discussed selecting two to three goals that will be advanced for developing more detailed work plans and recommendations in the 2008 State Water Plan.

Those goals are:

1. Improve stormwater management (under the Linking Land and Water Resource Management theme)
2. Manage water resources to reduce impacts of extreme conditions (flood, drought) (under the Sustainable Use and Supply theme)
3. Identify, protect and restore healthy riparian corridors (under the Waterway Corridor Management theme)

In addition to choosing these three goals, the committee decided to:

- Form a sub-group to write a prologue expanding on other priority issues in the basin. Volunteers for the sub-group are Rep. Kate Harper, John Hoekstra, Irvil Kear, Mike Meloy and Allen Fidler. This sub-group will draft a prologue ASAP to take to the P&I Subcommittee for review.
- Form a sub-group to synthesize the four major themes of the Regional Action Agenda. Volunteers for the sub-group are: Maya van Rossum, Preston Luitweiler, Mike Stokes, Bob Wendelgass and Barbara Smith. This sub-group will have a draft by the end of June.

Fall Public Meetings and Hearings

As required by Act 220, the Regional Committees must hold another combined public meeting/hearing to solicit input on the drafts of the regional plan components. Leslie said that all draft components of the State Water Plan, not just the regional plan component, will be taken to each of the regional public meetings/hearings. The Committee agreed to schedule a public meeting/hearing for the evening of Thursday, October 25th. It was suggested to use a location in the middle of the basin, possibly in or near Allentown. Some suggestions were Northampton Community College, Lafayette College and Penn State Lehigh Valley. DEP staff will look into a location, and further details will be made available to the Committee once the time and location are set. Several committee members stressed the importance of publicizing the public meetings/hearings, and Leslie said that a publicity strategy would be developed, including asking PCN to televise all of the public meetings/hearings.

Discussion on Upper Wissahickon Special Area Management Plan (SAMP)

Ken Najjar of DRBC reviewed the Draft Work Plan of the Upper Wissahickon SAMP. He also handed out a draft list of the Critical Area Advisory Committee, now named the Upper Wissahickon Advisory Committee (UWAC). After reviewing the list, the Delaware Committee passed a motion to accept the recommended UWAC list; to reach out to six more potential nominations to add to the list; and to

document this process so that other regional committees will see how the UWAC was chosen. (Note: please contact Ken Najjar at DRBC for an updated UWAC list.)

Motion made by: Jeff Featherstone

Motion second by: John Hoekstra

Motion passed.

Delaware Source Water Protection Initiative Presentation by Philadelphia Water Dept.

Molly Hesson and Jason Hunt of Philadelphia Water Dept. (PWD) gave a presentation on source water protection and water quality concerns in the Delaware River Watershed. The presentation gave examples of pollutants and ways to improve the watershed health. Visit www.phillyriverinfo.org for more information.

Administrative Items

The Draft February 2007 and November 2006 Meeting Summaries were reviewed. There were no changes to the November 2006 Draft Summary. For the Feb. 2007 meeting summary, Jeff Featherstone requested that a summary be added regarding the Committee's recommendations to the P&I Subcommittee list of Statewide Themes.

Motion made by: Helen Haun

Motion second by: Bob Wendelgass

Motion carried.

The Committee conducted elections of 2007 Chair and Vice Chair. Carol Collier and Jeff Featherstone were nominated to serve again and both indicated that they would be able to continue.

2007 Committee Chair, Carol Collier, and Vice Chair, Jeff Featherstone:

Motion made by: Barbara Smith

Motion second by: Bob Wendelgass

Motion carried.

DEP Summary of Activities

The Statewide Committee Update Memo dated March 15, 2007 was provided to the Committee along with a draft document outlining the Organization of the 2008 State Water Plan. Leslie discussed both documents with Committee members.

The Contractor selected to complete the Paper Atlas and Public Information Document is Greenhorne and O'mara (G&O) in association with Land Logics Group and Robinson Group. The Notice to Proceed was issued on April 10th and work commenced immediately. The consultant will be attending the August round of Regional Committee meetings to present drafts of the Atlas to committee members. Leslie passed around a sample draft of the Marketing Document, which is being fast-tracked to be published before the public meetings/hearings, for the

Committee to see the format that will be used. Some committee members indicated that they would like to comment on the document. Leslie said that the P&I Subcommittee is the review committee for the Marketing Document, and that she would forward comments to the P&I Subcommittee for their consideration. Please send your comments *ASAP* to Leslie.

DEP will be providing materials for regional committee members to review before the August meetings and is currently trying to determine the best way to provide these materials and collect comments.

Comments from the public

There were no comments from the public.

Update on Water Budget Screenings

Dave Jostenski presented an update the Committee on the schedule and sequence of the water budget screenings. Selected screenings on 22 watersheds are being conducted across the state to aid in the process of identifying Critical Water Planning Areas. The data verification on these watersheds will be completed by August 2007. In the Delaware Basin, the watersheds being screened are: Jordan Creek, Unami Creek, Maiden/Sacony Creeks, and Brodhead Creek.

Follow-up/Next Steps

- Please send any comments on the Marketing Document *ASAP* to Leslie at lsarvis@state.pa.us.
- The “prologue” sub-group will draft a prologue *ASAP* to take to the P&I Subcommittee for review.
- The “theme synthesis” sub-group will have a draft by the end of June.

Next meeting is August 2, 2007 at the PPL Lake Wallenpaupack Environmental Learning Center in Hawley, PA.