



DCNR MEETING #1,
4-14-15 Meeting Notes
Delaware Canal Vision Study

Location: DCNR office Lake Nockamixon
Time: 9am to Noon
Attending: Elissa Garofalo, D&L (EG)
Allen Sachse, D&L (AS)
Nick Forte, D&L (NF)
Allen Black, DC21 (AB)
Randy Apgar, DC21 (RA)
Susan Taylor, FODC (ST)
Rick Dalton, DCNR (RD)
George Calaba, DCNR (GC)
William Collins, SC (WC)

- EG D&L Overview of project / process
“no bad ideas”
“look at things differently”
“interested in outcomes”
“very exciting process”
“looking for canal-wide input”
“protect and preserve the resource”
“very valuable process for communications”
“complex resource”
- NF CAC meetings are important, public and transparent
- ST 1987 Master Plan resulted in the formation of the CAC “stakeholders”
- GC CAC is a venue for partners to discuss all subjects
each presentation is 10-15 minutes max
- RD Who should be involved in stakeholders ?
Trying to ramp up the Advisory Committee to be more active
Minutes co out to all partners (there is a list)
- ST Look at the original CAC list
- GC DCNR can provide the CAC list
- EG Should we create stakeholder “buckets” – to group interest types ?

Examples of **Stakeholder** "buckets"

- 1 Business / tourism
- 2 Environmental
- 3 Heritage
- 4 Recreation
- 5 Government (including municipal and Legislative Caucus)
- 6 Administrative ?

NF Municipalities have an important say as stakeholders

AS Agreed

ST Municipal office meeting by FODC (dinner, talk to DCNR)

AB Does FODC have a current list (munis) ?

ST The fifth week of the month is the best time to meet with munis

AB Need to reach managers and elected officials

AS Government is also legislators and bureau managers
Legislative stakeholder contacts should be later in process to target "asks"
but invite legislators to all meetings

AB Should there be a separate stakeholders meeting for FODC

EG "Bureau" meetings include the **DCNR Coordinating Committee** meetings –
such as today's meeting

AS Re: **Project Committee** FODC should be on that committee as well

GC Can one stakeholder from each bucket be on the Project Committee ?

EG Re: **Project Committee** – suggested to invite

- 1 Heritage Conservancy
- 2 Lower Bucks Canal Conservation Committee
- 3 Friends of Washington Crossing (FOWC) – to be confirmed

NF FOWC have skin in the game and should be invited to the "heritage
stakeholder group

RD Re: **Project Committee**

- 4 East Coast Greenway (ECG)
- 5 Highlands Conservancy (Highlands)

AB Re: **Project Committee**

- 6 Central Bucks Bike Club (CBBC)

AS Re: **Project Committee**

- 7 Lower Delaware Wild and Scenic (LDW&S) – same as HC ?

EG Re: **Project Committee**

8 Circuit-related – DVRPC ?

ST Re: **Project Committee**
9 Delaware and Raritan Canal – NJ (D&R)

RD Patricia _____ at D&R State Park, RD met with her early

AS Re: **Project Committee**
10 PA Historic and Museum Commission (PHMC)

RD PHMC has the compliance bureau and the facility bureau.

WC PHMC should be involved through the process, not wait until the end.

EG PHMC chair is Jim Vaughn
Cory Kegeriese ? – eastern PA
Bryan van Sweden ? – central office

ST the PHMC deputy Director decides on historic projects.

ST Re: **Project Committee**
11 PennDOT ?

“PennDOT is currently performing a survey of DC structures to determine ‘eligibility’ – to determine if the 1931 designation is accurate.

This PennDOT survey is being managed by Central Office and is generally completed. It was due in December 2014.

FODC seeks a uniform development policy for canal bridges, walls, roads, etc

RD DCNR has had little involvement in this PennDOT survey

RA Who is doing the DC structure survey for PennDOT ?

AS Probably a planning firm (TBD)

AS Re: **Project Committee**
12 Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) – as potential source of funds for repairs ?

EG Re: **Project Committee**
13 Central Bucks Visitor Bureau – Visit Bucks County
14 Discover Lehigh Valley
15 Delaware Canal 21 (DC21)

AB Kathy Auerbach is doing a study of the DC for FODC

ST The purpose of the Auerback project is to tell the history of specific places

ST The DR Estuary helps fund the lower municipalities' projects

- AB Re: **Project Committee**
16 What about NPS (Julie Bell) – also part of the LD W&S
- EG Re: **Project Committee**
Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) ?
- AS Re: **Project Committee**
17 PennDOT – District 5 and 6
- EG Re: **Project Committee**
18 Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC)
- AB Re: **Project Committee**
19 Counties (2) County parks, etc
- ST Re: **Project Committee**
20 Three (3) Chambers of Commerce in Bucks County
- NF Re: **Project Committee**
21 River Road Business Association – is there an active list ?

There are many businesses that have a vested interest in the Canal such as Golden Pheasant

- WC Can we get Chamber member lists ? or contact members thru the chambers?
- ST FODC Canal-side business owners list is not current

CONSENSUS on the Project Committee Members

- 1 D&L
- 2 DC21
- 3 FODC
- 4 HC
- 5 Visit Bucks County
- 6 Discover Lehigh Valley
- 7 NPS – Philadelphia
- 8 PEC
- 9 PHMC
- 10 Others – tbd ?

WC Re: **Public Meetings**

Two sets of three meetings each – June and November 2014, (Tu, W, Th)

- June Meetings 9, 10, 11 or 16,17,18
- Nov Meetings – tbd (early to mid to avoid Thanksgiving)

Two types of sessions per meeting day:

- 4:30-7:00pm Open House - drop in / with “peopled stations”
- 7-9pm Formal presentation / public discussion

Open Houses Present overview – conditions, purpose of the study
Breakout Stations:

- Opt 1 - create stations by 5 stakeholder group types
- Opt 2 - create stations by 5 issue types - stormwater, etc

Public Presentations Formal 10-15 minute PowerPoint presentation

- Overview – conditions, purpose of the study
- Meeting ground rules
- Ask carefully crafted questions to stoke discussion
 - What are appropriate costs ?
 - What are appropriate improvements ?
 - What else ?

Open Public discussions (1.5 hours each)

Programming “card” technique to record public comments

Meeting locations – different each time – if possible (other ?)

- Upper – Easton (Lafayette) Nurture Nature, Raubsville (firehouse)
Tinicum Park (Barn)
- Middle – New Hope (Eagle Firehouse), NH-S High School
- Lower – Bristol (Boro Hall), Morrisville (tbd) Yardley (tbd)

WC Re: **Publicity / Media Management**

ST Need to advertise about the process

EG FaceBook – communication management by D&L, documents

EG D&L Website upgraded site will be ready soon
D&L home page to have link to DC Vision Study page
Vision Study page to have links to documents, resources

EG D&L acquired URL – delawarecanalvision.com and delawarecanalvision.org
\$90 for 3 years.

WC Categories of information to be on D&L Vision Study page (draft)

- Meeting minutes
- Project calendar
- Mapping
- Images / other data
- Letters, comments, etc
- Other ?

WC Re: **Public Involvement Venues**

- DCNR Coordination Committee
- Project Committee
- Stakeholder Sessions (5)
- CAC meetings (3 – during
- Public Meetings (6)

AS D&L will manage **Press** contacts

WC Re: **Mapping / graphic products**

How to acquire DCNR GIS and other data ?
Need DCNR GIS protocols for creating compatible new GIS datasets

GC SC to work through George
All DCNR GIS data resides in Bureau of Information Technology (Harrisburg)

ST FODC has the canal milepost / landmark data (using GPS)
Credit must be attributed to Peter Sperry for use of this data
This info is not yet in GIS format

GC DCNR wants to get this FODC milepost data into GIS, but no date set yet.

WC Re: **Messaging**

ST Acknowledge:

- previous 1987 Master Plan
- 1988 D&L started
- More than 25 years
- A new way of thinking, a new era

Brainstorm messages:

- Rebuilding, Rededicaton, Recommitment – to the Delaware Canal
- Changed circumstances since the (three) flood years
- Canal and stakeholder moral suffered after floods
- A fully-watered canal is the untied goal

AB Flood repairs are done – what now ? Funds for preventative maintenance ?

EG “we need to hear from you” (seek public input)

AB ‘new, exciting partnerships” innovation, moving forward

EG Consensus project slogan: “***New Partnerships for a New Era***”

WC Re:**Next Meeting - DCNR Coordinating Committee, May 20, 2015, 9am-12**
at DCNR Lake Nockamixon office.

NOTE:

*These notes represent the best recordings by Simone Collins of the proceedings of the above-referenced meeting. **Please deliver suggested comments / revisions to these notes to SC and D&L before MAY 6, 2015, after which time these notes and any comments will become the meeting record.***