

LITTLE JUNIATA RIVER ASSOCIATION
Meeting May 9, 2024

The LJRA met at Marzonis Restaurant on May 9, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 7 P.M. by Bill Anderson, President. Directors present were: Bill Anderson, Scott Kavanaugh, Gary Miller, Angie Spagnoli, Logan Stenger and Lee Pryor.

ALTOONA CAMPUS POND RESTORATION

Colin Lennox, Biofilm Reactor Ecologist, gave an informative talk on ways to clean up the Altoona Campus Pond. His goal is to seek support from the LJRA in accomplishing this project. The idea would be to install 5 biofilm reactors which the water would circulate through and remove unwanted substances. These would be placed underground. The koi would also need to be removed as they stir up the mud looking for food. The koi could then be sold as some bring a high price. The cost to do this project would be around \$50,000 to \$70,000. The timeframe for completion would be approximately two years. The possibility of getting any money from Penn State is unlikely.

Before presenting this to Penn State to see if he could get permission to do this, Colin would like to have some stakeholders such as the LJRA support him. A suggestion was made that one of the sources to approach would be the Penn State Advisory Board as they handle projects like this. To fund it, options would be Go Fund Me or donations from conservation groups, or individuals. Some of the measured parameters we would want to see achieved would be fecal coliforms, suspended solids, heavy metals, primarily lead. The pond now has no discharge unless there is a high water event coming through, in which case it flushes from the top and not the bottom. Bill Anderson stated that we should measure the impact on Spring Run as Spring Run is a wild trout producing spring. If a problem is found, we would put together a grant request stating what the problem is and what we propose as a solution. Then grant money probably would be available if we clearly define what the impact would be on the Spring Run water quality.

STREAM BANK CLEAN UP

The clean up went well with a lot of trash picked up. The ladies at the church had a challenge as there was a power outage. However, they still managed to serve a hot lunch. Many thanks to the ladies at the Spruce Creek Methodist Church.

CATCH AND RELEASE SIGNS

Thanks to Logan and Steve who put up over 40 Catch and Release signs along the river. Bill informed the group that we again paid \$5,000 for the New Enterprise land and he will need help putting up posters for that area.

STATUS OF STORM WATER QUALITY MONITORING AT RUTTERS

There hasn't been much run off since the construction period ended. Now the concern is the heavy metals or petrochemicals that might come from trucks parked there. We will still need to do sampling occasionally to see what is coming off the parking lot. Anything coming off the trucks should go into the underground storage facility and sooner or later will find its way out to Sandy Run. That is our concern now.

SUMMER BANQUET JUNE 8TH

Angie updated the group on the plans for the upcoming banquet. 20 tickets have been sold so far. We would like to have 60 to attend. Eric will again run the shuttle service.

FLOAT BOAT CLEAN UP

We may want to put a float boat clean up together through the gorge in late July or August. We will discuss this again at future meetings.

NEW PLATINUM MEMBERS

With no other business to be discussed a motion for adjournment was made and approved by unanimous consent. The meeting ended at 8:10 P.M.

Lee Pryor, Secretary