



**TRI-COUNTY CONEWAGO CREEK ASSOCIATION  
LAWN FIRE DEPARTMENT, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 7:00 p.m.  
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

**I. Welcome and Call to Order**

**II. Secretary's Report**

**III. Treasurer's Report**

Beginning Balance - \$1,793.41; Activity - \$38.00 in expenditures, \$201.85 in fundraising/dues. Ending Balance - \$4,917.26. Dues for 2004 were due January 1.

**IV. Projects Report**

Section 319 Grant:

- No new updates.

Elizabethtown Regional Authority Park Project:

- No new updates. There is a public meeting to be held on Thursday, May 6<sup>th</sup> to unveil plans.

Barn Owl Project:

- No new updates – There are three barn owl nest boxes in the watershed. Larry Coble has constructed a few new boxes and hopefully the group can solicit other landowners to put the boxes up. There was an idea of using the boxes as a fundraising tool by having individuals sponsor a box.

Hess Farm CREP Planting (Little Conewago Creek):

- The CREP project trees are in but the fencing has not been erected yet. There is a 50-foot buffer along the stream and around the pond with natural plantings. TCCCA may insert some live stakes this spring to help with CREP (target date early-April). Jim Binder from Middlecreek has been able to get the group some free cuttings, namely Black Willow and Silky Dogwood. Saturday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> is the date for meeting at Middlecreek to cut the live stakes.

Brill's Run/Hertzler Farm:

- The Dauphin County Conservation District walked the site in February. It has been agreed to use streambank fencing for the entire stream; funding sources are not currently available for the spring. The Conservation District is going to put a list together of other programs. TCCCA can use trees from the nursery if necessary. CBF is also willing to give TCCCA 200 trees for the nursery. The group has decided on Pin Oak, Green Ash, Chokeberry, Silky Dogwood and Arrow Wood.

#### Volunteer Monitoring Program/Watershed Snapshot 2004:

- The Watershed Snapshot is scheduled for Saturday, May 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. A tentative location is the Lawn Community Park. Matt Kofroth to reserve the fish shocking equipment for that day.

#### English Estates Development Plan:

- The English Estates is a proposed development off of Deodate Road (south of Turnpike). This area contains a large portion of Brill's Run. Matt Royer and CBF met with Frank English who is the developer of the property. CBF to draw up a proposal (50-ft buffer at minimum). The Township has tabled the approval of the development till the next meeting on April 14<sup>th</sup>. Rugh Henderson suggests talking with the Township in order to understand and make clear who will maintain the area. The development is proposed in phases with 10 homes planned for Phase 1. An infiltration basin is listed as the stormwater management and all 35 homes are on septic/wells.

#### Local Stream Restoration Project Tour:

- Six participants met and toured Rife Run (Manheim) and Lititz Run with a guide from Land Studies. There is some interest in setting up another "community" tour in the summer-months.

## V. Funding and Outreach Report

#### 2004 WREN Grant:

- Board would like to apply again; application is due by Friday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Could use these monies for new display board and to fund some signs for existing projects. Also could fund a permanent display for the Governor Dick Nature Center (Mt. Gretna). Board approved a match of \$100.00.

#### Fundraising Opportunities:

- Hal Royer has received the application for the Elizabethtown Fair 2004. The Board to discuss at the next Board meeting.
- Donegal Fish & Conservation Association Show, Saturday March 6<sup>th</sup> 4-8:00 p.m. Jay Book, Erin McKinne, and Larry Coble attended; one new member as a result of this endeavor.

- Mt. Calvary Sportsmen's Banquet, Saturday March 6<sup>th</sup>, 3:30 p.m. – Matt Royer and Bill Stoffel attended; no new members but lots of information handed out to individuals.

## **VI. New Business/Announcements**

### Milton Hershey School Meeting

- Matt Royer sent a letter to President O'Brien in December. Matt attended a meeting with the President, John Davis (special assistant to the President), Tim Hoover, and Marcia Patterson (Environmental Center president). They seemed very open to TCCCA. Tim Hoover and Jim Miller to identify top priorities on Milton Hershey land.

### Aberdeen Mills Project

- Due to the emotional aspect of this issue, the discussion was quite long. Currently there is a proposal to the Planning Commission for a 49-home development at the site. These homes are to be serviced by on-lot systems. The supervisors have expressed some concerns about the property and passing perk tests.

After much discussion, there is a general consensus that TCCCA should be proactive with Aberdeen Mills. TCCCA should meet with the Engineer of the development project, attend meetings, and elicit support from other local agencies/organizations. TCCCA should be in the forefront of helping the developers know what to do with the land if it fails perk tests (and even if it doesn't).

### Riparian Buffer Ordinance

- Conewago Township is in the process of redoing some ordinances. Matt Royer will draft up some recommendations to "beef up" their riparian buffer ordinance.

## **VII. Open Discussion**

- Rugh Henderson presented information on an adult nature camp in West Virginia.
- Bob Censier alerted the group that the website has been down.
- Bill Stoffel reminded the group that his trees should be measured in May/June.
- Linda McKinne alerted the group of the continuing dump site near Aberdeen Mills.

## **VIII. Next Meeting**

The next TCCCA meeting will be held at the Lawn Fire Company, Route 241 (Mt. Gretna Road) on Wednesday, April 28<sup>th</sup> from 7:00-9:00 p.m.

