

**Sierra Club of Pennsylvania, Southeastern PA Group Executive Committee Meeting  
June 3, 2015  
Meeting held at CityCoHo, 2401 Walnut Street**

**ExCom Members Attending:** Pat Beudet, Bill Brainerd, John Butler, Jon Paul Jaworski, Anne Lovett, Dave Moscatello, Prasad Ramnath, Dennis Winters,

**By Phone:** Len Finegold, Mathew Himmelein, Jim Wylie,

**Other Members Attending:** Emily Davis, Sue Edwards, Karen Melton,

**Absent:** Mike Hoppus,

The Meeting was called to order by Ann Lovett at 6:45.

Secretary: Minutes approved.

Treasurer: Beginning balance was \$1,821.32. Expenses were City Coho rent, \$100 and bank charges of \$14 for a balance of \$1707.32. There was a \$290.68 bill in the C3 account bringing the C3 account balance to \$4,505.35 The treasurer's report was accepted.

**Standing Committee Reports**

***Newsletter/Communications:*** (Pat) Pat said the next newsletter is scheduled to go out in the first week in July so the deadline for articles will be June 30. There was a discussion of articles to be included. They include Bats (JP / Anne), Pollination (Karen), June lecture (Bill), Forum(Sue), Good Jobs, Green Jobs conference (Mat). Jim said the length does not matter. He will start each article on the first page with links to the remainder of each article.

***Conservation Committee:*** (Jim )

Oil Trains: The PA Senate Transportation and Senate Environmental Resources & Energy Committees will meet on June 9 to discuss the safe transportation of crude oil (and other energy products) by rail in Pennsylvania. Peggy will present written testimony. Wendy will attend.

Awareness Rally July 6: There will be a rally to remember the Lac Megantic oil train accident on the anniversary of the event

Pipeline Grant: Dennis will administer the funds of this grant. Bernie and Jim are working on a flyer

Energy Hub: (Dave) The steering committee will present a report of their work in mid-June. By-laws will follow. Dave is working on the solutions committee which is meeting weekly. He also reported that Ken Lande from Penn is on Kenney's Science advisory team and that the solutions sub-committee will have some input.

Lobby Day: (Karen) Sierra Club and Clean Water Action are sponsoring a lobby day on June 16 to promote the governor's recommendations for environmental funding. Funding focus includes, inspection of fracking operations, energy efficiency, promotion of solar energy, Fracking Health data base.

Labor & Climate Forum: Sue reported that the event was very well attended. The event was coordinated by Sue, Mitch Channin and John Braxton. There were 15 sponsoring organizations including a number of unions, environmental groups, social justice groups, and religious groups. The main speakers were Eddie Bautista ( Executive Director of the New York City Environmental Justice Alliance), Jon Forster (Co-chair of the People's Climate Movement-NY) and; Josh Kellermann (Senior Policy and Research Analyst at ALIGN NY). She said she did not need the funds requested in the email conversation because a hat was passed and the speakers were happy with the amount collected. There was some discussion about the follow up to this event.

**Political Committee:** (Bill) Bill said that candidate interviews will be conducted on June 13, 20 and 27. The chapter will meet July 10/11 with the next meeting in October so we need to have recommendations ready for the July meeting

**Education Committee:** Bill. The next program is June 15. Speakers are from the Bicycle Coalition and Indego. 6:45 at CCP (17<sup>th</sup> and Callohill). Michael Mann's talk has been moved to November 9 and will be held in an auditorium at CCP.

**Nomination Committee:** no report

### **Old Business:**

#### *Outings / Picnic:*

Jim reported that there will be a paddle event on Sunday June 21 on the Brandywine River. There will be a brief talk by a member of the Brandywine River Association. There are 20 spots and a lunch will follow.

Anne reported that she and Pat had gone to Bartram's Garden and recommend it as the site of the picnic. They suggested either Sunday August 1<sup>st</sup> or Sunday August 8 because Kayaking will also be available on those dates. August 1 was selected. The time will be 12:00 – we can remind on the grounds until 6:00. For the use of the facility we will make a donation to Bartram's Garden which is a 501(c)3 organization. The house is closed for the summer. Dennis volunteered to do a tree tour. Hoagies will be provided and potluck donations will be accepted.

### **New Business:**

*Kevin Little's request for donation:* The letter making this request was presented by email – see addendum. Bill moved to regretfully deny Mr. Little's request for funding. Pat seconded and the motion passed. It was felt that this request did not fit the focus of our organization.

### **Reminders:**

Chapter meeting and Camping trip: Little Pine State Park, July 10/11 (Lycoming County)

#### ***Conservation Committee Member Specialties:***

- MTR – Jim Wylie
- Energy Conservation & Efficiency – John Butler
- Wind – PTC support – Gillian Norris
- AEPS support – Karen Melton
- Water – Robin Mann
- Smog – Gary Lytle/Jackie Wilson
- Transportation – Dennis Winters
- Land Use – Dennis Winters

### **Meeting Call-in Number:**

1-866-501-6174, PIN is 1004100#.

#### *Addendum: Kevin Little Request:*

I am writing this from Olney Charter High School to tell you about the tree planting and proposed TREE dedication to the late Miss Margaret Molina (spelling not verified), a slain 18 year old senior who would have been graduating this spring. Margaret was found slain in her home on Friday, March 20th of this year- see attached image.

Olney Charter High School has a rigorous Environmental Science curriculum. I personally taught environmental science classes studying glaciers, Aquifers and Groundwater conservation, in addition to classes investigating the proposed Keystone XL pipeline and related controversy over it.

The Science department here at Olney Charter High School acquired a grant and planted 10 trees around the school including several Maple trees this year. I have helped water and care for these trees, and moreover started numerous classes with warm-ups discussing trees, the importance of trees, and most notably the advantages of planting trees in the city as a lasting memorial for deceased friends and family members.

Since the tragic loss of Margaret Molina, I and the science department have sought, and received approval to dedicate a tree(s) to the late Olney Charter High School student. We need assistance in getting a large stone inscribed with a memorial, or some other tree dedication memorial. Everyone here is excited about dedicating a tree(s) to Margaret. The cost of an appropriate memorial would run as high as \$275. KEVIN LITTLE, Cell 215-837-4889, Hm 215-387-3719