



Pennsylvania Wilds Planning Team Meeting

December 13, 2012

North Central - Ridgway

Minutes taken by **Val Shelley**

CORE MEMBERS:

Attendees per sign-in sheet are highlighted below

County Planners (12):

Jodi Brennan*	Donna Zofcin	Tim Holladay	Jan Hampton
Charlotte Dietrich	Seth Kerr	Matt Quesenberry*	Kim Wheeler
Dan Glotz	Debbie Lunden	Twila Rifemberrick	Jim Weaver

LDD Representatives (4):

Kevin Abrams	Eric Bridges*	Jill Foy	Tom Grbenick
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State Representatives (2):

Meredith Hill	Denny Puko
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Local Government Agencies, TPA's, Heritage Organizations (6):

Terri Dennison	Mike Keller*	Dave Morris
Doug Hill*	Ed Knittel*	Mike Wennin

*Alternates for Core Members:

Jodi Foster	(for Matt Quesenberry)	Wendy Nickerson	(for Ed Knittel)
Cliff Kanz	(for Kim Wheeler)	Lisa Kovalick	(for Jodi Brennan)
Kristen Rotz	(for Doug Hill)	Laurie Storrar	(for Mike Keller)
David Brooks	(for Dave Morris)		

PARTNERS (12):

Bill Callahan*	Helene Nawrocki	Jim Seyler	Farley Wright
Renee Carey	Matt Nuss*	Bob Veilleux	Open
Bob Imhof	Sue Hannegan	Jerry Walls	Open

*Alternates for Partners:

Jason Fellon	(for Matt Nuss)	Andrea MacDonald	(for Bill Callahan)
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STAKEHOLDERS:

Michelle Bogacki	Lori D. Dabbondanza	Zachary Roeder	Joy Ruff
Jeff Bliemeister	Jackie Koons-Felion	Matt Marusiak	Karen Vanderhoff
Ta Brant Enos	Wes Fahringer	Deborah Pontzer	Rick Viglione
Holly Komonczki	Gregory A. Faller	Eric Rensel	Dan Vilello
Dana Crisp	Dale Fox	Adam Mattis	Glenn Vernon
Melanie Darrin	Linda Devlin		

Guest Speaker: Debra Bowman, Executive Director Tourism-DCED

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND MEMBERSHIP UPDATES – Dan Glotz:

Dan Glotz, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:05 and welcomed Debra Bowman as our guest speaker.

DEBRA BOWMAN – Executive Director Tourism-DCED:

- Debra explained that she currently wears three hats as Director of Marketing, Tourism and Film
- Handed out a funding matrix spreadsheet (requested an electronic copy)
- Economic Development with DCED on the road starting in March 2013
- Film Symposium in Fall of 2013
- Economic Development marketing consists of 80% in the State and 20% Out of State
- Explained PATT and the privatization of tourism –plans for an advisory board and potential funding
- Have met with PA Wilds Marketing Corp regarding their realignment and sustainability
- Visit PA Website will be updated by February 2013 – all lodging will be listed, using Tierney
- Work with Tierney to “tell the stories” in the region
- Define success for the PWPT and sustainability

MINUTES OF THE October 25th MEETING:

- Jill Foys made a motion to accept the October 25th minutes, Jodi Foster seconded the motion, vote was unanimous – MOTION CARRIED.

OMBUDSMAN’s REPORT – Ta

- Ta explained her most recent partnership successes and work accomplishments:

Events:

- Had great opportunity to talk about *partnerships* at the PA Environmental Council meeting in Wilkes Barre
- Several business tours of new and existing businesses in McKean, Potter and Tioga counties. Pictures posted on Facebook.

Communication:

- Post conference press releases that appeared in a number of papers in the region
- Attended Shell check presentation in Wellsboro (press release to be issued after first of year)
- Working on Youth Entrepreneurial Video with school visits planned next month, filming into spring, editing in summer, and in schools by fall – accompanied by a youth scholarship program.
- Planning a Clearfield County tour with Holly
- Plan to have 2012 “output/outcomes” available for next meeting
- Handed out the *new* Artisan Trail rack card
- Will be speaking at the CLI meeting 1/14-1/15 in Harrisburg*
- Design Guide is now available on the Resource website as a download
- Resource website is being redesigned and should be complete February 2013
- Artisan newsletter and revamped e-updates will rotate every other month

*Asked Meredith to resend the January 14-15 CLI rescheduled information to the team. (See below from DCNR’s website)

Conservation Landscape Summit rescheduled

Hurricane Sandy forced the postponement of the [Conservation Landscape Summit](#), originally planned for Oct. 29–30. The summit has been rescheduled for Jan. 14–15, 2013, again at the Best Western Premier Hotel in Harrisburg. The summit will bring together more than 200 local and state officials, county planners, downtown managers, economic development officials, recreation providers, tourism promotion agencies, conservation organizations and others from existing conservation landscapes and from areas of the state not yet taking a conservation landscape approach to planning and tourism.

The goal of the summit is to build a further understanding of and enthusiasm for packaging conservation, recreation and economic development interests in large landscapes that have significant natural resources and commonwealth investment, i.e. parks, forests, trails and land protection.

Keynoter Lynn Scarlett will discuss national landscape work, and how Pennsylvania is leading the charge. Scarlett is a national government and academia expert on issues related to effective stewardship of land, water and wildlife resources.

If you have already registered, please contact [Josh Karns](#) or 717-230-8044 x305 to confirm that you can attend the rescheduled date or to arrange for a refund. If you did not register for the original date, you may register for the new January date through the [updated registration page](#).

ROUND #18 DCNR GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT – Meredith

Round #18

- Meredith explained that LHR received notification by DCNR that they will receive \$ 300,000.
- Funding covers LHR, Support of the PWPT, Annual Dinner, LHR/PWPT mini-grant program and Ombudsman
- The mini-grant program is \$ 65,000 and requires dollar-for-dollar match (not in-kind)
- Cannot be used for profit business signs
- Will need to meet in January to establish the round #18 budget and mini-grant programs.

Sustainability

- Denny reminded the group of the core statements defining the PWPT's limitations for applying for funds
- The team needs to investigate other grant opportunities available through municipalities, LDD's, etc.
- Matt Q. suggested that it might make sense to combine the Financial Committee with the Sustainability Committee since the ultimate objective is the same. Goal would be to meet in January to take a look at the total financial picture.

Matt Q. to set-up meeting in January.

- Val explained that there is approximately \$ 23,000 left in the current grant (TAG) that needs to be spent by 6/30/2013.

2013 OFFICERS/PARTNERS -

- Eric Bridges contacted all of the current officers and they agreed to remain in office for 2013. Jerry made a motion and Matt Q. was the second for carryover of the 2012 officers to 2013. Vote was unanimous – MOTION CARRIED.
Dan Glotz – Chair
Jan Hampton - Vice Chair
Terri Dennison – Recording Secretary
- A motion was made by Jim W. and seconded by Jerry to move Dale Fox, Michele Bogacki, and Matt Marusiak from Stakeholder to Partner positions filling the two blank slots and replacing Matt Nuss who has moved to a different position. Vote was unanimous – MOTION CARRIED.
- Denny reminded the group that we normally operate on consensus and a formal vote is not always necessary.
- Dan to check with Farley to see if he is interested in remaining a partner since he hasn't attended recent meetings.

DCED, DCNR, PHMC & HEADWATERS UPDATES

- Meredith's Updates:
 - Met with Secretary Allen regarding the work and accomplishments of the PA Wilds
 - Reminded the team that DCNR will be holding grant workshops again this year.
 - Started a draft of the 2013 calendar of events so we are more proactive on the timing of future projects (copy attached). Please let Val know of any changes or additions to the document.
- Denny's Updates:
 - Explained the latest changes at DCED
 - Municipal Services grant still has about \$ 500,000 available

- State Planning Board will be sending out a Survey Monkey and would appreciate responses
- Bill Callahan's Updates:
 - Per Bill's recent e-mail: The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission's Keystone Historic Preservation Grant programs are open. The deadline for applications is **March 1, 2013**.

Keystone Historic Preservation Project Grants are available to qualified nonprofit organizations and local governments for the planning and development of historic resources, including but not limited to:

- Historic preservation plans
- Historic resource revitalization plans
- Historic buildings surveys
- Archaeological surveys
- National Register nominations
- Historic structure reports
- Design guidelines
- Feasibility studies

Applicants may apply for up to \$25,000. All projects require a dollar-for-dollar cash match with a minimum application of \$5,000. Full grant program guidelines and application instructions may be found at:

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/grants/3794/keystone_historic_preservation_project_grants/426654.

- Dale Fox's Updates:
 - Dale explained what is new at Headwaters and that the Bogart in Ridgway is about to be sold

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Outreach & Education – Deborah Pontzer
 - Deborah reminded that group that there is only one PWPT meeting (February 28, 2013) before the April Annual Recognition dinner so the **Outreach Committee will set-up a meeting in January to start planning for the event.** Looking for dates, location, will review awards process, and looking for volunteers.
 - Deborah also worked with Jodi F. and Michele B. to rewrite a portion of the CEDS document for North Central
 - Deborah explained that the Congressman was very gratified to see the grassroots efforts by the people who participated in the PA Wilds Workshop. **Suggested that Dan send a letter of thanks to the Congressman.**
 - Michele explained the \$ 500 grant that she received for marketing the PA Wilds logo through merchandising.
 - Ta who participated and spoke at the Workshop, explained that there were 9 teams encompassing 45 people. It was suggested that perhaps the teams could write up their project stories to share at the annual dinner.
- Oil & Gas Committee – Jim Weaver
 - The Oil & Gas Committee is very proud to announce that we have received a \$ 15,000 donation from Shell for the research and printing of the *Oil & Gas Supplement* to the Design Guide.
 - Tracy Zinn of T & B Planning will be the Consultant for the project (many of you may remember that Tracy worked on the original Design Guide and more recently the Preserve America Design Assistance Program)
 - The Committee is currently working with Tracy on an official scope of work, budget, and timeline.
 - Jim has been requested to be a speaker at the CLI meeting in January.

MISC.

- Jerry Walls gave the team an overview of the newsletter article that he prepared per the request of CCAP.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday, February 28, 2013

Meeting was adjourned at 12:40.

2013 PA Wilds Planning Team Annual Planning Calendar (Additions in blue by Val)

JANUARY

- Begin planning for Spring Annual Update and Awards Event – Outreach Committee
- Convene Champion of the PA Wilds Awards committee
- Invoices to be issued to counties for 2013 PWPT donation
- Finance/Sustainability meeting to establish budget – Matt Q.

FEBRUARY

- Announce PA Wilds Champion Award Nomination Process
- Decide on a grant submission for DCNR grant and begin developing scope if placing request
- PWPT Meeting – Thursday, February 28th

MARCH

- Review/select award winners
- Prepare and distribute Annual Update invite

APRIL

- Submit grant application(s) DCNR closing date 4/10/2013
- Finalize arrangements for Annual Update
- Develop press release and distribute
- Prepare presentation for Annual Update including awards program.
- Conduct Annual Update
- Establish Nominating Committee for 2014 proposed slate of Officers
- PWPT Meeting – Thursday, April 25th

MAY

- Participate in any scheduled annual township meetings in counties

JUNE

- PWPT Meeting – Thursday, June 27th
- DCNR “TAG” grant closes on June 30, 2013 – will require PWPT writing of outcomes for grant close-out

JULY

- Develop County Commissioner letters for annual contribution
- Schedule meetings with Commissioners

AUGUST

- Distribute County Commissioner letter and make visits
- PWPT Meeting – Thursday, August 22nd

SEPTEMBER

- Follow up with County Commissioners on annual contribution outreach

OCTOBER

- PWPT Meeting Thursday, October 24th

NOVEMBER

- Begin preparing annual report with grant outputs/outcomes

DECEMBER

- Finalize grant outputs/outcomes report and distribute
- PWPT Meeting – Thursday, December 12th