

Catoctin Creek Scenic River Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes – April 9, 2012 (4:00 - 6:00 PM)

Committee Members Present: Norma Wilson, Anne Larson, Eleanor Adams, Bruce Johnson, David Ward, Patti Psaris

Committee Members Absent: Otto Gutenson

Guests: Phillip and Sandra Ehrenkranz

Location: Lovettsville Library, 12 North Light Street, Lovettsville, Virginia 20180

Call to order: 4:13 PM

Discussion

Approval of March 12, 2012 Meeting Minutes (Motion to approve: Johnson; Second: Adams; Vote: Unanimous).

Review of Action List: Updates were noted. Additional Action items noted.

- LCPS Teacher Historical Education: Taylorstown –May 1 - Eugene Shields has invited the Catoctin Scenic River Advisory Committee to attend with discussion at Judy Ross's house organized by Anne Larson
- Greenfest – May 5 at Lovettsville Library -Norma Wilson, Anne Larson and Bruce Johnson will attend.
- Post Card – Approved as presented.
- Letter to NOVEC Fiber Optic.

Education and Outreach and Event for 2012: Assigned to subcommittee (Anne Larson, Bruce Johnson and Norma Wilson. Basic parameters to be defined: location (Cheronis possibly), Date (prior to Sept 20), activities, food, theme, invitees, publicity, purpose, educational opportunities.

Presentation:

Phillip Ehrenkranz: Highlights of the Creation of Catoctin Scenic River

Phillip provided a verbal summary of the events starting in the 1960's during the golden age of environmental awareness, through the 1968 legislation of the Scenic River Act, and to the first Earth Day in 1970. In 1972 the Commission of Outdoor Recreation (COR), received the first submission for scenic river status from the Fall of the James. Later that year Hurricane Agnes brought the water level to 21 feet at the old mill in Taylorstown. An article in Washington Post in 1974 announced that Black and Veatch engineering company contracted by Army Corps of Engineers were designing a dam on Catoctin that would hold 12 billion gallons of water. The reservoir would start near the mouth to the Potomac and backwater almost to Waterford, inundating much of Taylorstown. The Catoctin Valley Defense Alliance was formed by 150 local residents in opposition. The goal to have the creek designated as scenic. To achieve this, a petition needed to be signed by 2/3 of the riparian landowners. Some residents believed that scenic designation would attract communist. The issue went to Public Hearing in 1976 and the Board

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of Supervisors adopted the resolution 6-2. Material presented included: Board of Supervisors Meeting Minutes, petition and article in Washington Post.

New Business: None.

Announcements:

- Lovettsville Park construction now excludes the pond and dam reducing the cost by \$3.5 M

Next meeting: The next meeting will be May 14, 2012 from 4 to 6 PM.

Adjourn: 6:15 PM (Motion: Johnson; Second: Adams; Vote: Unanimous)