

Delaware Township Stormwater Committee Minutes May 25, 2022 meeting

Roll Call

Present: Gary Hinesley, Sue Lockwood, Leslie Sauer, Valerie Tucci

Guest: Richard Nalbandian, PG, AICP

New business:

Gayle Conover has resigned as Chair; Gary Hinesley is elected Chair.

Non-agenda item:

On May 25, guest Richard Nalbandian, PG, AICP was invited by Leslie Sauer, and together with Gil Smith and Gary Hinesley they took a walking tour of the Village Green, Sergeantsville Fire Dept., Delaware Township Police Dept. and Public Works yard, to look for possible sites for stormwater recharge installations., which could include tree planting, reduced mowing, and engineered solutions.

Old business:

Agenda items of “old business” include grant updates and monitoring of reconstructed embankment at 208 Lower Creek Road.

New business, old business and the non-agenda item were discussed altogether.

Discussion:

Ms. Lockwood noted that the plantings have been installed on the embankment on Lower Creek Road; she is disappointed that the contractors never provided the Township a plant list. Generally, members commented that the black willow stalks appear to be doing well, but the tree whips in tubes look weak, not to say dying. The grass is brown. The reconstructed bank has already eroded noticeably, and generally members are not confident that it will last. The plantings appear insufficient, and nothing has been done yet to address the large volume of stormwater from upstream of the site.

Ms. Lockwood commented that the Township Committee had discussed a drone overflight along the creek to determine possible future sites where the bank might collapse. Mr. Nalbandian said that the bank was likely to continue to erode at the very site where it was rebuilt, 208 Lower Creek Road; his reasoning is that the creek bed is already eroded down to the bedrock there, and under these conditions further erosion can be expected. To the question “what is Plan B for the site?”, no one had an answer.

As a professional hydrogeologist and engineer, Mr. Nalbandian has made a career of installing stormwater recharge projects in the greater Philadelphia area. He gave the Stormwater Committee a thumb drive with pictures of projects he has worked on. The Committee will view these at the June meeting.

The search for grants continues.

Meeting adjourned.