

Langhorne Manor Borough Stormwater Commission – Agenda & Minutes
Monday, May 24, 2021 7:30pm via Zoom

*Note – to conform with new Langhorne Manor Borough “Standard Operating Procedures,” meetings will now be recorded.

Attendees: Alicia Gasparovic (chair), Dawn Seader (Borough Council President), Jay Ferraro (Borough Manager), Fred Tomlinson, Jim Keba, Lauren Shuke, Matt Marion, Heather Palladino, Grace Judge (resident), Andy Norton (resident), John Brodbeck (resident), Liz Colletti (RVE)

1. Approve April meeting minutes (approved)

2. Status update – RVE proposals for grant preparation – Comly Ave, Chubb Run (Not discussed separately, but rather incorporated throughout Liz Colletti’s presentation. See below.)

3. RVE Q&A Session – Liz Colletti (RVE) to attend

Liz gave a thorough presentation of LMB MS4 and TMDL requirements, including status updates on grant applications and our two potential projects (Comly Ave and Chubb Run), and entertained questions and discussion afterwards. See powerpoint slides.

Highlights outlined below:

- CSO = combined sewer overflow
- TSS = total suspended solids
- Importance of compliance with DEP designated outfalls requirements
- Annual DEP MS4 reports cover July through June of each year. Reports are due every September.
- LMB has requirements for the Neshaminy Creek (MCMs, PRP, TMDL, and PCM), Mill Creek, Silver Lake, and Magnolia Lake. Liz unsure of whether our current reduction plans in the prior documentation address Silver Lake and Magnolia Lake (nutrients and algae, Appendix E). She will look into it.
- LMB current MS4 plan expires 2024, and Liz will confirm but she thinks we have an unpaid DEP fee.
- LMB should reach out to state reps for letters of support for any grant applications that RVE is preparing for us (due towards end of June). RVE can supply us with template letters.
- For any streambank restoration projects, there are 2 methods of calculating DEP credits: Standard Method and Expert Method. The expert method can result in almost 3x as many credits, but of course requires more work to prepare. Liz did not think it requires 3x as much work, however, (only 1-2 days of survey work, already included as part of the optional Chubb Run grant preparation proposal approved by Council) so it may be worth pursuing if we end up doing streambank restoration. Would also require follow-up samples in 3 years to illustrate project success.
- Liz mentioned that the next cycle of DEP requirements is likely going to be another 10% sediment reduction like it is now, but there is no guarantee that

won't change/increase. Also stated that PRPs are on a 5-year cycle currently, but could change to 7-years as DEP learns about municipal budgeting and grant cycles that can delay projects.

- The need to reparse the wooded area (if streambank restoration is pursued in these woods) was discussed, and whether it was ok to pursue Comly first without reparsing (yes).
- For original mapping and pollutant loading used for calculating required reductions (done previously by RETTEW), there are default county rates for pervious/impervious surfaces. A program called "MapShed" may be used for more thorough modeling of more specific areas (gravel driveways, for example) but Liz thinks we're probably pretty average, and therefore more specific modeling may not be warranted. RVE will review at proper time to decide whether calculations need to be redone. Liz wasn't sure whether helpful areal photos/land cover layer maps from Univ of Vermont were used for pervious vs impervious cover (not everyone knows these exist, and often WikiWatershed info is used instead). **Alternate: SWC could inventory gravel driveways**
- Chubb Run project would take approx. 3-5 years, done in phases. (Investigation, hydrology analysis, project itself). There are other grants available for this project in the hydrology analysis phase (Growing Greener due end of March or end of June, Floodway Mitigation due end of May). We should know by Sept/Oct of this year about grant funding, aim to execute agreements by 12/31/21, and start physical work in 2022.
- We may be able to request that our 5-year DEP clock be restarted if we submit a new plan. Liz could request.
- Comly project plan and \$ estimates should be ready later this week.
- We'd have 45 days after being awarded grant money to respond. Might be hard to know costs before preliminary work is done (for Chubb Run project). Liz toyed with stalling the Comly project until we know more about Chubb Run funding. Jay pointed out that some of the Comly costs will be minimized bc of the PennDOT Hulmeville Ave bridge project, wherein parts of Comly will need to be ripped up and replaced anyway. The idea was floated to stall the Chubb Run project instead, and pursue solely Comly Ave for now.
- The new Pine St curbs were mentioned, and whether they would impact the parsing and modeling for Mill Creek watershed and/or the two lakes. Liz said that can be reevaluated and that universities have their own NPDES.
- What should the SWC be doing now while grants are being prepared and projects evaluated? **Liz thinks working on the MCMs, specifically education/outreach/clean-ups/creation of target audiences like pool owners, residents with swales. Also to consider whether LMB needs a stormwater fee, possibly based on impervious area. Credits could be given for properties with BMPs on private property.**
- Question about how many properties would need things like raingardens to add up to a meaningful impact. Liz responded that RVE could evaluate this, that raingardens have the highest effectiveness value form DEP, and that 30% resident participation would be ideal.
- Question about swale maintenance – Liz responded that weeds are ok and show that water is infiltrating into the soil. Trimming weeds also is ok, but maybe their total removal is not good bc allows soil easier entry into stormwater. Don't fill

cracks between stones with compact material that prevents water infiltration. If swales are very steep, more weeds are ok to slow water/infiltrate.

- Question about brick driveways, same as paved? Liz responded no, bricks are better if there is not cement in between the bricks. Liz mentioned permeable pavers as something to educate residents about the benefit of. Driveways that slope and dip before reaching the street (wherein water can run off into yards, rather than swales) are helpful, but probably not earning DEP credits.
- Question about materials to educate resident about harms of dumping trees/plant waste in woods.
- Projects after 2017 receive credits/are BMPs. Probably nothing prior.
- Privately owned BMPs should be on deeds (Post Construction Stormwater Management = PCSM). Liz will consider whether the Excel list of 12-13 of these facilities are meaningful enough to consider when remapping.

4. Next meeting – ~~Monday, June 14 at 7:30pm?~~ or **Monday, June 28 at 7:30pm.** In person.