

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy  
French Creek Steering Committee  
Meeting Notes  
November 17, 2000 – 1 P.M.  
Northwest Field Station at Lake Pleasant

Attendees: Todd Sampsell, Charles Bier – WPC; Brian Hill – FCP; Marnee Gormley – USFWS; Sarah Galloway – Erie Co. Conservation District; Brian Pilarcik – Crawford Co. Conservation District; Dave Skellie – Erie Co. Dept. of Planning; Bob Anderson – USGS; Jeff Lang – DAD's Products & Conneaut Lake/French Creek Valley Conservancy

**\*Attendance was low due to significant snow accumulation.**

Objectives: In addition to welcoming and orienting new committee members, the purpose of this meeting was to provide a progress report to the committee from the Watershed Conservationist and discuss next steps.

For next mtg: (committee) – review draft outline and provide comments by 12/31/00; review drafts of sections as they are completed by Watershed Conservationist and provide comments in time allotted; think about management options and recommendations based on data for next meeting.

(WPC) – finish data collection and library research of available information; begin drafting sections of plan and providing to committee members and WPC staff for comments; establish webpage based on committee recommendations.

Date of next mtg: late Spring 2001

Meeting highlights:

Presented updated list of committee members, subject to change if new key individuals are identified as important potential members of committee.

Reviewed March 10, 2000 meeting notes to orient new members.

Discussed progress on Conservation Plan to date:

- presented draft outline for committee review
- discussed intern working on French Creek GIS
- reported on excellent public stakeholder meetings and presentations to other groups

Discussed content of webpage as Conservation Plan develops:

- links to data sources on French Creek

- overview of what a Conservation Plan is
- list of committee members (w/o contact info.)
- meeting minutes
- draft outline
- allow public to pose questions anonymously
- promote citizen action committees

Discussed important notes for conservation plan:

- must be user friendly to insure document gets used
- include summary of land use controls such as comprehensive plans, zoning, and development regulations
- make recommendations about smart development, attention to wording when plans are being developed, agricultural security areas, and zoning

Important announcements:

- FCP and WPC are holding a meeting with key individuals to develop outreach and education plan for zebra mussel issue in French Creek watershed
- WPC has applied for planning grant to provide guidance on operation of Northwest Field Station and development of Lake Pleasant Conservation Area. This office will be base of operations for WPC work in northwest PA.