

Delaware State Bar Association – Environmental Section
Minutes of Meeting – September 17, 2008

Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor, LLP
The Brandywine Building
1000 West Street
Wilmington, DE 19801

Attending:

Stephanie Hansen, Chair
Leeann Walling, Speaker
Devera Scott
Tom Kovach
Val Satterfield
Dave Ormond
Kara Coats
Hardy Drane
Tom McCracken
Bob Haynes
Todd Coomes
Pam Meitner

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Agenda:

Chairperson Hansen called the meeting to order at 12:10 pm; the minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and approved.

Introductions/Speaker

After each attendee introduced himself/herself, our guest speaker, Leeann Walling, the new planner for DNREC, was introduced by the Chair and began her presentation. Ms. Walling gave a recap of some of the environmental legislation from the last session in the General Assembly. In particular, she mentioned that there was direction from the General Assembly that DNREC review its authority with respect to a number of its initiatives. This sparked a discussion among the committee regarding the separation of powers and the authority of the General Assembly to be involved in DNREC's implementation of its programs and initiatives. Lastly, Ms. Walling felt that DNREC should be less concerned about potential litigation and should, instead, stay the course to implement the current land use agenda, identify gaps in environmental protection and revamp the current septic regulations.

Volunteer Opportunities for the Section

Dave Ormond volunteered to gather information for the Section regarding potential volunteer opportunities. He mentioned that he would be able to keep the section updated on upcoming tree plantings, projects eradicating invasive species and organized waterway cleanups (such as Coast Day, and the Christina River Cleanup). The Section was grateful for Dave's

assistance and felt that an email broadcast to Section members and posted on the DSBA website would be good outlets to generate participation in the activities.

Increase in Section Dues

An increase in the Section dues from \$10 to \$20 dollars effective next year was debated. In the end, the motion was made, seconded and passed to implement the increase based upon the very tight section budget (prior to this meeting the Section treasury contained \$695.97) which does not allow the Section to participate effectively in environmental causes or events.

The launching point for this discussion was a request for the Section to be a sponsor at the upcoming Legacy Luncheon honoring former Governor Russell W. Peterson for leadership in environmental education. All sponsorship levels were out of reach for the Section. Instead of sponsorship of the luncheon, the Section voted to sponsor one ticket (\$75) to be donated on behalf of the Section for the attendance of a member of the Delaware Nature Society (DNS) at the luncheon. That member of DNS will be Helen Fischel, Associate Director of Education.

Adjourn and Next Meeting:

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 pm. The next Section meeting is scheduled for 12:00 pm, Wednesday, November 19, 2008, at the Wilmington Office of YCST. A speaker will be scheduled and the Section will be notified at a later date.