

**Guardians of the West Fork Regular Mtg. June 19, 2019 Clarksburg Water Board 6:30 PM**

President John Ciesla brought the meeting to order at 6:45 PM and led members in the Pledge of Allegiance. Jim Nedrow did the invocation. Others attending were: Steve Hamrick, Mike Murphy, Martin Christ, Al Cox and Sally Egan. Al Cox moved and Mike Murphy seconded that the April minutes be approved as presented. Motion passed. There was no financial report.

Senate Bill 675 (Adopt a Stream) was passed by the state legislature. President Ciesla suggested that we get other groups to help with parts of the 75 mile long West Fork River. Two mile stretches of river were suggested with volunteers age 12 and above.

President Ciesla discussed the National Paddling Film Festival as a possible fundraiser for the Guardians. The films are short, juried, independent films with a cost of \$100. A two-hour film festival would require 4 rental hours at the Robinson Grand. Our approximate rental cost with our non-profit discount would be \$670 for a Thursday night event. Weekends are booked through 2019. John checked with David Houchins regarding Waldomore. There is a 50-seat screening room with digital projector and screen. An after hours' fee applies Monday – Friday after 7 PM, Saturday after 3 PM and on Sunday. Mountain State Brewing Company in Bridgeport has a room that can be closed off.

A 2020 Float the Fork meeting will be held at the West Milford Municipal Building on Sept. 11, 2019. Abby was given a plaque for her 2019 Float the Fork efforts at the June West Milford Council meeting. The depth of the river for this year's float was 2 feet. Last year it was 3 ½ feet. Stonewall Dam is going to put our float on their schedule for next year. Three women floaters picked up 10 tires and a 55 gallon plastic drum.

Dave Wellman, Mike Murphy, and John Ciesla attended the Shinnston Water Trail/Rail Trail Access Project meeting in Shinnston. There will possibly be a fall float next year from Shinnston to Worthington. Frank J. did some leg work in the Worthington area.

The Coal River Yak Fest drew 9,000 – 10,000 people this year. This is their 15<sup>th</sup> year. Newspapers in Charleston and Logan promoted the event. AEP provides a truck for their trash pick-up.

Tire Fishing at Jackson's Mill – Will possibly be held Sept 7<sup>th</sup> from 9 AM – 2 PM. Josh Garton will bring his tractor. We need to get permission from the farmer. Lewis County First wants to help. Possibly Mon Power will help us with a rig to pull tires out. We will need REAP (Kelly Cook) to deal with the tires.

WV American Water Plant Tour in Weston - We will possibly have a meeting there in the future.

NCWV Paddle Club – Some discussion was held about starting a local paddle club.

Under new business, Ben Pursglove and Martin Christ are working on a watershed plan for Lambert's Run. We won't get any money until this time next year. Martin suggested getting an engineer to acquire a portable aeration unit to "try" on Lambert's Run. John stated that we can still do sampling with our money.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sally Egan, Recording Secretary