


Special Projects Committee

C&O Canal Association
December 1, 2019



Board's Charge to the Special Projects Committee

Develop and maintain a list of Board-sanctioned projects.

- A defined project list prioritized from the Association's perspective can serve as the basis of discussion in working with the Park and successfully spending Association funds on Association approved projects that would benefit the Park and the canal.

(COCA Strategic Plan Issue 3: Support for Park Issues and Projects)

Our Goal

- Obtain Board approval of the methodology used to produce the list and accept it as the way to proceed to categorize projects in the future.
- Obtain Board acceptance of this list as a starting point for reaching out to the park and others to spend Association funds.

How we developed the list

- Identified possible projects
 - Brainstorming
 - Suggestions from association members
 - Previously discussed and supported

How we templated each project

- Template
 - Project name and brief description
 - Impact: value of doing project and loss if not done
 - Scale: small, medium, large
 - Time frame:
 - < 1 year,
 - 1-3 years,
 - > 3 years

How we templated (continued)

- Estimated cost:
 - < \$2,000,
 - \$2,000 - \$20,000,
 - \$20,000 - \$100,000,
 - > \$100,000
- C&O Canal Association Project Lead
- Involvement of other Park partners
- Anticipated Park Involvement
- Relation to the Park's Strategic Plan

Factors used to prioritize projects

- Ranked projects based on scale and duration
 - Short, Medium, Long
- Assigned a probability of being able to complete the project based on scale, time, cost, sponsor, partners, fit with the Park strategic plan
 - High, Moderate, Low
- Assigned priority
 - High, Medium, Low

Examples

- Funding Seasonal Staff in Cumberland
 - Duration: Short Do-ability: High Scale: Small
 - Priority: High
- Lockhouse 75 Repairs
 - Duration: Short Do-ability: Low Scale: Medium
 - Priority: Low
- Seneca Aqueduct:
 - Duration: Long Do-ability: Low Scale: Large
 - Priority: Low

Project List – High Priority

- Funding seasonal staff in Cumberland or Williamsport
- Funding Park travel to the World Canals Conference in Leipzig
- Purchasing Mules
- Support for the Cumberland
- Bowles House Repairs
- New documentary film for Park Visitor Centers
- Monocacy Aqueduct Maintenance
- Renewal of Wayside Exhibits

Project List – Medium Priority

- Support for *The Mercer*
- New Waysides at Lock 51 and 52 (Hancock)
- Seneca Stonecutting Mill
- Extension of CCC Wayside Exhibit Project
- Video of Association Activities

Project List – Low Priority

- Towpath continuity emergency funding
- Hiker/Biker site maintenance
- Lockhouse 75 repairs
- Tonoloway Aqueduct restoration
- Evitts Creek Aqueduct restoration
- Paw Paw education pavilion
- Seneca Aqueduct restoration
- Shelter for *The Cumberland*

Project List – Priority TBD

- Swains Lock (Rachel Stewart Fund)
- Lockhouse 8 restoration

How we will maintain the list

- The project list will be maintained by the Special Projects Committee
- New project
 - Submitted using the template
 - Committee will review and assign priority
- Suggestions for change to a priority
 - Include reason for change
 - Committee will review and agree or disagree
- Committee will present to the Board for approval

What happens next

- Incorporate Methodology and Project List into Association Strategic Plan
 - Dependent on Board acceptance
- Meet with new park superintendent and establish regular meetings to discuss projects
- Publicize Project List and Template
 - *Along The Towpath*
 - Website

What happens next (continued)

- Find Association leads and champions for projects
- Work with park personnel on park projects
- Work with partners outside the park on other projects
 - Town of Hancock
 - Canal Place
 - Friends of Historic Great Falls Tavern
 - Others