**Reports for Green Sanctuary Meeting of November 17, 2024**

Save Ohio Parks. This group met via Zoom at noon on Friday, November 15. The Oil & Gas Land Management Commission met on October 21 in Columbus. No members of the public were allowed to speak at the meeting, but SOP held a “speak out” outside the meeting. Theresa White is the new chairperson of the OGLMC. When the nominations for two Salt Fork parcels came up, Ms. White said that these requests will be tabled so that she can review the public comments on these two nominations; this was the first recognition by this group that public comments have been received and are noticed. The Joint Committee on Rule & Review (the group that translates legislation into practical procedures) supported the new rule to regulate deceptive actions that promote false comments on nominations. To review the process of approval of proposals for fracking in public lands, a nomination, once supported by the OGLMC, (the company originating the nomination is not named) leads to a bid, which then results in a permit authorized by ODNR. The next OGLMC meeting will be between December 8-30. Another aspect of fracking on public lands is “force pull;” this means if two thirds of an area has been approved for fracking (such as property adjacent to a state park), property owners in the other one third of the area can be forced to allow fracking on their lands. There was also some discussion about plastics and how much of fracking is done to provide methane for ultimate production of plastics, which fossil-fuel companies are increasingly relying upon for their profits, The group also briefly discussed the election and consequences for their cause (not good).

Injection Wells. Bob Lane and Bob Wilson actually won the appeal of their suit against several injection well companies. According to their attorney it was a very strong opinion. Their attorney wants to combine this case with another similar case and present it to the Athens County Court, which he thinks will be a more favorable legal environment to advance the case.

ReImaigne Appalachia Events:

 November 19, noon – coalition update (I usually attend this biweekly event)

 December 6, 11 a.m. – Community conversations (re: economic development etc.)

 December 12, noon – Flood policy platform

 January 14-15, 2025, 11 a.m. – 1:30 – ReImagine Appalachia Annual Strategy Summit.

Devola Pollinator Project. This project has stalled. I had some interest form my postings on the social media site, Next Door, but none of those who expressed interest responded to my willingness to provide seeds and advice. Given the date & season, I shall send out another announcement through Next Door, explaining how to do winter sowing of native seeds. I have done winter sowing myself and also planted several native plants, which I got from Rebecca Phillips in my own (vegetable) garden. I shall be relegating a part of my large vegetable garden to native plants. I shall turn over seeds that I do not use to Mark Krivchenia for his ecological restoration use.

Citizens Climate Lobby. Our next meeting is Monday, November 18 at 7 p.m. via Zoom. Among other items we shall be discussing are my attempts to set up a lobby meeting during the dates December 9-13 with a staff member from Congressman Michael Rulli’s office. The lobby meetings on these dates are intended to serve as an immediate follow up to CCL’s National (virtual) Fall Conference scheduled for December 6-7.

George Banziger, November 15, 2024