

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Notes
May 13, 2014

In Attendance: Don Richardson, Vice Chairman; Jeannine Mitchell, Sean Sablosky, Ken Snyder, Board of Supervisors Liaison; Ashley Thompson, Special Projects Coordinator, Stephanie Mason, Township Manager; Karen Sweeney, Director of Parks & Recreation; Judy Stern Goldstein, Township Planning Consultant.

Minutes

Approval from April 8, 2014 were tabled.

Stone Barn Manor (360 Old Dublin)

Environmental Advisory Council had no items to report to the Planning Commission.

Birdtown Demonstration Garden

Ms. Mitchell shared with the committee the up to date progress of the Native Plant Demonstration Garden. With the help of volunteers from PECO on April 11, 2014, 32 cubic yards of mulch was spread around the garden. Ms. Mitchell reported that the next phase of the Native Plant Demo Garden will be to plant shrubs. She plans to donate \$100 as she was awarded \$100 for the “Bird on An Wire Award” for “Backyard Conservation Design of the Month Award.”

Ms. Mason reported that Ms. Lloyd, the wife of past Environmental Advisory Council member William Lloyd, would like to donate a tree in memory of her husband. Ms. Mitchell was very pleased to hear of the donation and suggested that donation could be a native tree.

Ms. Mason suggested that if there are any more tree donations to the Township that the Environmental Advisory Council give Ms. Mason a list of various trees that they could plant in the Native Plant Demonstration Garden. Ms. Mitchell reported to Ms. Mason the variety of native trees that they would be happy to plant.

Ms. Sweeney reported that she is currently working with Richard John, Director of Operations, to create a Memorial Trees Program in Central Park. She also reported to Ms. Mitchell that she would like a list of the various trees that could be donated and used within the Native Plant Demonstration Garden and other future Environmental Advisory Council projects.

Ms. Mitchell reported that she currently has donations of baby perennials at her home and is waiting to purchase or receive donated shrubs to be planted in the garden.

Riparian Buffers

Ms. Thompson explained Phase II of the Riparian Buffer mailing was sent out on April 23, 2014 and all properties on the list have been mailed a letter and pamphlet. The Environmental Advisory Council received a letter from Mr. Doel of 170 Hart Ave. stating that his property is not located next to a Riparian Buffer. Ms. Goldstein suggested that Ms. Thompson should send his property information over to her and she will

examine the Riparian Buffer map and list to see if the property is located near or next to a Riparian Buffer.

The committee discussed ideas on how to receive feedback from the Riparian Buffer mailing. Ms. Mason suggested the committee run a survey through the Township website. Ms. Thompson also suggested that the committee could run an article in the upcoming fall newsletter about feedback from residents who had received the mailing. This committee will further discuss options on how to receive feedback and recognize properties who had taken the initiative to preserve their riparian buffer.

Magnet/Decal Fundraiser

This item is under further review.

Nesting Bird Signs – Central Park

With previous discussion from last month's meeting, the committee and Township staff reviewed Ordinance No. 266 dated September 30, 1997 in which the ordinance states "Dogs are prohibited in all designated wildlife protection areas." The ordinance also states that "Dogs are restricted in the tennis/basketball and volleyball courts and areas specifically designated by the Township." The bird nesting signs are located in a designated wildlife protection area. The committee discussed wording changes for the signs will be sent to the Park & Recreation Board and the entire Environmental Advisory Council. Once both committees review the template of the sign, Mr. Snyder, Environmental Advisory Council Board of Supervisors Liaison, will present the changes to the Board of Supervisors.

DTV Programming

Ms. Thompson indicated to the committee that Keith Peters will be working with Mr. Hendrick to create new environmental programming pieces for the government access channel's EAC Hour.

EAC Summit

Ms. Thompson reminded the committee that the annual EAC Summit will be held here at the Township in the Activity Center on Thursday, May 22rd. Ms. Thompson also reported that there are currently 20 members from Bucks County and Montgomery County attending the event.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Thompson, Special Projects Coordinator