

Doylestown Township EAC Meeting Minutes

June 8, 2021

J. Baldassarre
M. Brooks
T. Casas
M. Magnano (guest)
J. Mitchell (Chair)
E. Neal (guest)
C. Sawyer
A. Walizer Special Projects Coordinator)
D. Wood (Supervisor)

- First in-person meeting since Covid-19 closures
- Meeting minutes from May approved.
- Budget reviewed. No issues noted. About 16% spent YTD

Ongoing Business:

Tree signs are ready for installation. A. Walizer informs us that no further meeting is needed. However, the Parks and Rec Dept prefers that the tree signs be installed in the Neamonds Trail area, and requests that we come up with a plan for future signage. A. Walizer will arrange a site visit to that area.

The Don Richardson memorial bench has been ordered but has not yet arrived.

No activity yet on the EAC informational brochures.

The Central Park Pond invasive plan remediation has been approved by the Township and by the Master Watershed Stewards. The plan is to have a group of Master Watershed Steward volunteers work for about 2 hours on a weekday evening to clear the selected invasive. The first invasive will be multiflora rose. Multiple sessions will be needed to clear and maintain the area.

Anne Woodbury provided this written update on the Native American Memorial: *All six relevant folks met at the Indian Rock to discuss a planting project for this Native American monument. Aaron Wurlitzer represented the Township, Judy Stern Goldstein (designer of the original Central Park plan), Denise Sezack, head of Bucks Beautiful (they are supplying some funding), Karen Sweeney, Director of Parks, Jeannine and I all managed to coordinate schedules! There is enthusiasm for this project. Heidi Shiver's idea to focus on small trees and shrubs was well received. There was absolute, unanimous support for involving the Lenape people in what the signage will cover. To this end, Jeannine and I took a mini-field trip to Churchville Nature Center. We were able to get names and contact info and will follow up with these representatives. In the meantime, Jeannine and I can start working on designs and plant lists. We hope to have the garden planted this fall, with a dedication ceremony next spring.*

Suggested plant list includes: Slippery Elm, Staghorn Sumac, Spearmint, Sage, Black Willow, Wild Cherry, Wild Ginger, plantain, nettle, White Pine, Mullien, Red Clover, Sweet Flag and Sassafras.

The joint EAC Summit with Solebury TWP s now set for October 20. We propose to do this in the Doylestown TWP building. The primary topic will be deer management and the guest speaker will be Jay Allen. T. Casas and C. Sawyer have offered to assist with coordinating the event. A. Walizer will provide the existing EAC distribution list (done).

Anne Woodbury provided this written update on the proposal to offer yard waste collection. *Colleen Mullen (Ways and Means) and I have been investigating the possibility of leaf removal by the Township. Colleen has done quite a bit of research and has brought the idea forward to Ways and Means. EAC has shown interest in learning more—no commitment yet to the project. After we started on this, Colleen is finding that time is in short supply. So, with agreement from Jeannine, Brenda Bray (Chair, Ways and Means), and me, Colleen has opted to delay further work on this topic until the end of the year.*

The summer concert series is going again this year and the EAC will have a table at almost all of the events. EAC members have already volunteered to staff the table.

The Board of Supervisors will discuss the new Rec Center at the meeting on June 15. J. Baldassarre and C. Sawyer will attend to see the newest proposal and any plans to ensure sustainability.

Subcommittees:

Bird Town: Bird town has an article in the current Township newsletter.

Invasive plant of the month is Callery Pear.

Ready for 100: A. Walizer discussed with the Ready for 100 subcommittee his analysis of electricity usage in the TWP. Purchasing renewable electricity under several scenarios is roughly a break-even proposition. At this point it is not cost saving, nor does it build additional capacity. Nevertheless, this could be an important first step towards the Ready for 100 commitments. Local solar systems may be more cost effective than purchased solar and should be considered. Other issues under consideration are improving energy efficiency in the TWP building (especially air handling) and installation of EV chargers. State grant money is available to install EV chargers, but there are substantial unfunded requirements that go along with these grants. A. Walizer will explore other more costs effective options for EV chargers (eg not metered or WiFi connected).

The native plant demonstration garden workday on May 22 was rained out, however a small group was able to do some work a few days later.

The next EAC Meeting will be held on July 13 at 7 pm.