

Doylestown Township EAC Meeting Minutes

October 12, 2021

J. Baldassarre
J. Filios (guest, Newtown EAC)
G. Frederick (guest)
J. Mitchell (Chair)
E. McCarran (guest, Newtown EAC)
E. Neal (guest)
J. Neal (guest)
C. Sawyer
H. Shiver
A. Walizer (Assist. TWP Manager)
A. Woodbury (Vice Chair)
D. Wood (Supervisor)

September meeting minutes were approved.

Budget Issues:

Poole's Corner Planting, Phase 2. Gina Frederick of Schumacher and Associates revised and review the planting plan with us. Dee browse is a major concern, so shrubs will be avoided at this point. Gina will finalize the next step of the plan with a budget of \$3000 in this year's budget and source the trees now.

East: E. Neal has investigated the next steps to plant the East Butler Ave meadow; the cost will be approximately \$300 to rent a large rototiller and \$300 for seed mix, in next years budget. The meadow will require about 1 mowing per year. Educational signage was discussed; however, signage must conform with PennDOT regulations. A. Walizer will investigate to options.

New Business:

A. Woodbury has notified the EAC that she will step away at the end of her term this December. The EAC has expressed its sincere gratitude for all of her innumerable contributions to the TWP. She will be missed.

H. Shiver proposes a speaker for the spring, perhaps Richard McCoy of Horticultural Services Inc to talk about organic land care. The cost would be about \$250. The EAC supports this idea. It could be given at Del Val University, and perhaps promoted through or co-sponsored by the One Health Program. H. Shiver will investigate further.

Ongoing Business:

Following from the very helpful recent discussion with the Planning Commission regarding open space management, a follow up meeting is needed to decide on next steps. A. Walizer to arrange a follow-up meeting in late October.

The joint EAC Planning Commission meeting minutes were approved with minor edits.

The recent TWP meeting regarding the new Rec Center was discussed. The basic shape, size and location have now been agreed. Many of the EACs suggestions for sustainability have been incorporated. The next public meeting will probably occur in January. J. Baldassarre and C. Sawyer will meet with the Commissioners to discuss additional specific recommendations which will further enhance sustainability and reduce operating costs.

The pesticide information pamphlet text is still under review by H. Shiver and K. Raymond.

A. Walizer has investigated alternatives to standard pesticide management for roadside application. Organic pesticides were tried in the Boro and were not successful. At this time we don't have viable alternatives to standard chemical applications.

H. Shiver is looking into ways to minimize single use plastic waste, and she has circulated a draft resolution for review. The EAC is very satisfied with the resolution and recommends that we ask the BOS to adopt this. H. Shiver will contact the Supervisors individually to inform them of our proposal and assess the acceptability of this resolution. This could potentially be presented formally to the BOS in November.

Subcommittees:

Bird Town: H. Shiver informs us that Bird Town Program is under transition and making good progress. Fourteen people attended the birdwalk on October 2. A number of activities are being planned and a virtual organizing meeting will be held Nov 2 at 7pm. In addition, The Pa Audubon Council will act as fiscal agent for the new Bird Town program.

The native plant demonstration garden has been awarded another Garden of Distinction recognition for 2021. This is the fourth award in 4 years. Recent work has focused on clearing paths and moving excessive plants into the expansion areas. A local volunteer, Danny McBride, is working with faculty at Del Val University to do an inventory of the plants now in the garden, and a report will follow. A garden walk with 25 Master Gardeners will take place on October 14.

Jane Neal and a group of Master Watershed Stewards continue to remove unwanted invasive plants from the area around the Central Park retention basin. Much of the edge has been cleared, and some donated grasses have been planted. Two issues have emerged; first, the team needs to define the outer edge for mowing. This may be accomplished with bamboo stakes or perhaps stones. Second, a kayak or small boat will be needed to get into the water to pull phragmites roots. A. Walizer will seek permission from the TWP to get a boat into the pond at one of the workdays.

Ready for 100: J. Baldassarre and C. Sawyer presented the West Rockhill experience to the TWP staff, and this was well received. The EAC will prepare to present to the BOS, showing the municipal solar is now feasible and cost effective. The proposed date is November 16. A. Walizer is also investigating issues with PECO and will help the EAC prepare for the BOS meeting.

Deer Summit will take place on October 20. Nine RSVPs so far, but more are expected. And C. Sawyer will send a reminder. Some of the attendees will be virtual. One speaker will be present and the other will be virtual. Hand outs will be distributed electronically beforehand. The goal is to prepare a joint statement and press release asking for coordinated action on deer management.

The EAC Strategic Plan should be reviewed in November.

The next EAC Meeting will be held on November 9 at 7 pm.