

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Notes
January 8, 2013

In Attendance: Committee Chairman: Keith Peters, Committee Members; Don Richardson, Sean Sablosky, Kelly McGowan, Jeannine Mitchell, Bill Lloyd, Township Ornithologist; Ray Hendrick and Board of Supervisors Liaison; Tom Scarborough, Board of Supervisors Member; Rick Colello and Staff liaison; Sandra Zadell

Mr. Peters welcomed Jeannine Mitchell, our newest alternate member, and congratulated Mr. Sablosky's promotion from an alternate member to a regular member.

Minutes Approval

On a motion made by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Mr. Lloyd the December 11, 2012 minutes were approved.

Mr. Scarborough congratulated Mr. Peters on his appointment as Chairman at the recent reorganization meeting.

Birdtown

Mr. Hendrick presented the Breeding Birds of PA book that he contributed to. The township will be purchasing a copy of the book to keep on file.

Mr. Hendricks stated that he's concerned regarding the Neamond Tract path connection on the bike and hike trail that connects to the White Eagle Lab property which is going to be developed. He said there are several critical habitats there. There are wetlands and his concern is where exactly the trail will go. Mrs. Zadell suggested that Mr. Hendricks come into see the plan and talk to Mrs. Mason.

Mr. Hendricks reported that he has installed twelve new bird boxes on the bike and hike pathway along the parkway. Mr. Peters reported that we still have the additional boxes that were made by the students that Kevin Brand is planning on fixing. Ray Hendricks indicated that if the boxes were painted they would last much longer.

Mr. Hendricks mentioned that when or if the EAC moves forward with the demonstration garden, he knows two Penn State Master Gardeners who are very interested in helping.

Mr. Hendricks also agreed that he would love to do a spring bird walk with Jeannine Mitchell in collaboration with our Park and Rec Department. Mrs. Zadell will contact Karen Sweeney, the Director of Park and Rec Department to schedule an appointment to start planning.

Jeannine Mitchell presented draft version of three memos: one for the bird blind improvement, one for the demonstration garden on Wells Road, and a third regarding a

demonstration garden in the environmental education area. Mr. Peters suggested that they work in order of each memo. They will start with the bird blind memo and Kelly McGowan will be helping Mrs. Mitchell. They will meet to take the measurements this month so they can have a memo to vote on next month.

Correspondence

The committee reviewed their correspondence, the PEC thank you letter. Mrs. Zadell distributed the board and commissions' information update and the household hazardous waste information update.

Shred Event

They discussed the shred event and decided that it should be held after May 25th. Mrs. Zadell will schedule the shred event.

2013 Summit

The committee discussed the 2013 EAC Summit. Mrs. Zadell will get dates for the summit to forward to the EAC on a Wednesday night in May.

Historic Tree Subcommittee.

Mrs. Zadell stated that since Arnie Feldman left we haven't added any new members to the shade tree commission. Jeannine Mitchell and Ray Hendricks both indicated they would like to become shade tree committee subcommittee members. Mrs. Zadell suggested that the subcommittee should meet and that they should get together with creating a solid program on what they are going to do about historic trees. Mr. Peters agreed and stated he would organize a subcommittee meeting.

EAC Hour

The committee then went onto to discuss the videos that Mr. Peters had requested for the EAC hour. Mr. Lloyd submitted several videos including the Perkiomen water shed videos regarding storm water. Mr. Peters will review them and get them in the process for approval. Mr. Lloyd also brought up that he would like to initiate a composting seminar in the fall time frame, maybe in October. He will get information together and bring it to the next EAC meeting.

New Business

The committee was reminded by Mr. Scarborough that they should elect a Vice Chairman. The committee nominated Don Richardson, he declined. The committee nominated Bill Lloyd, he declined. The committee discussed nominated Jeff Fehr, who was not in attendance on a motion by Mr. Richardson, seconded by Mr. Lloyd, the

committee recommended Sean Sablosky as the Vice Chairman. The motion passed unanimously.

Trash Report

Mrs. Zadell stated that they have 14 responses to the municipal survey that they sent out. Mr. Peters stated that he feels we really need to take action and forward the report to the Board of Supervisors. He doesn't know what we will say at this point, but we need to say something about the report, create a memo and forward it to the board.

Mr. Peters stated that including a draft RFP adds important details and information for the Board's consideration.

Mr. Richardson and Mr. Sablosky expressed concern about the validity of the report. Mr. Sablosky pointed out that the report lists several recommendations on ways we can handle trash collection including ordinance review and municipal collections as other options.

Kelly McGowan stated that a cover memo is a good idea to frame the issue and recommend future steps for the Board of Supervisors. The committee stated that Mrs. Zadell should email the entire EAC to let them know that next month they will be voting on the trash report.

Mr. Richard made a motion seconded by Mr. Sablosky to forward the report to the Board of Supervisors with a cover memo and without an R.F.P. The motion failed.

Mr. Peters made a motion to draft an R.F.P. with the memo on the report to forward to the Board of Supervisors. The motion passed.

Mrs. Zadell will prepare the draft R.F.P. for distribution to the E.A.C. in review at the next meeting. Mr. Peters will prepare the draft memo for distribution to review at the next meeting.

On a motion made by Mr. Peters, seconded by Mr. Sablosky, the EAC adjourned at 8:45 p.m.