

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting Notes by Autumn Canfield
December 13th, 2016

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In Attendance: EAC Members: Sean Sablosky, Interim Chairman, Don Richardson, Vice Chairman, Anne Woodbury, Marty Brooks, Dr. Tanya Casas, Jeannine Mitchell; Shawn Touhill, Supervisor Liaison, Autumn Canfield, Special Projects Coordinator

Mr. Sablosky called meeting to order: 7:02pm

Certificate Presentation

Cheri and Adam Skelding joined the meeting for presentation of a certificate for their record tree. Ms. Mitchell will do a newsletter article in regards to the tree.

Minutes Approval

Mr. Brooks motioned to approve the minutes and Ms. Woodbury seconded. Motion carried 6-0.

Plan Review

The Pine Run Community Hub revision of the final plan was reviewed. EAC recommends;

1. Use of native plants in all landscaping and in the rain garden.
2. Not using the Norway Spruce and instead using a White Cedar
3. Using a more native Viburnum instead of Shasta Viburnum
4. Using Sweet Bay Magnolia

New Business

Meeting time-

The committee would like to keep 7:00pm meeting time.

Chemfab-

Ms. Canfield informed the Committee that proposed clean-up plan summary info was mailed out. The comment period is over. While the site is not in Doylestown Township the plume extends there.

Water Testing-

A Township well came up positive for perfluorooctanoic acid and perfluoro-octanesulfonate and was dealt with immediately. DEP marked a circle of influence and testing of the wells within the circle is still occurring. The threshold for the contaminant was changed leading to the failing well test.

Meadow Signage-

Full size samples were shown for approval. Over the course of the project, multiple changes were made. Ms. Mitchell moved to approve the meadow signage final drafts. Dr. Casas seconded. Motion carried 6-0. The committee members would like input on where the signs are placed.

It was brought up that the meadow in Central Park had been mowed. It should not have been mowed this time of year. Mowing should take place in the beginning to middle March. EAC recommends only mowing the meadow once a year in March. It was asked who mowed the meadow, whether it was a contractor or the Township staff. Ms. Canfield will check with the Director of Operations and discuss the

issue with him. The meadow should not be mowed again until March of 2018 and should only be mowed to 6 inches in height.

Also regarding the meadow, it was discussed that the creation was not properly planned. Meadows should be planted with specific species. Ms. Woodbury suggests starting from scratch and is going to look into potential funding to properly plant the meadow.

Ms. Mitchell suggested systematic removal of non-natives and undesired plants so it can be done in intermediate steps rather than starting over.

Ms. Woodbury said for the equipment needed, it would be more economical to do it all at once.

Mr. Brooks suggested there may be an erosion problem if the entire area was affected at once.

Ms. Woodbury will look into funding. More information is being sought.

Old Business

Fall Speaker Series-

The fall speaker series event featuring Doug Tallamy was well attended. Positive feedback was received and the event cost each sponsor \$152.48.

It was suggested to start discussing in January the next speaker series event. Ms. Woodbury suggested more heavily advertising for events in the future.

Native Plant Garden-

Five shrubs were donated and installed; Fothergilla, Clethra (Summersweet), Baryberry, Virginia sweetspire and Arrowwood.

Ms. Mitchell requested some Winterberry to plant from Mr. Touhill. He asked to be reminded in spring and he will supply it.

Mr. Brooks is working on getting another three native plants to install.

Trees in the garden were pruned in October to provide more light and shrubs were added for layering affect. Perennials will get moved around the garden.

Mr. Brooks would like to clean up behind the garden. Ms. Mitchell explained they hoped to expand the garden to the path that runs behind it. Mr. Brooks will designate the spot and the Township will speak with its public works employees.

Magnets-

Mr. Sablosky took the votes and considered the commentary to create a final design for the magnet. The magnet features blue birds but is not EAC specific so there is a broader appeal. The plan is for the graphic to change each year to create a collectible factor. Ms. Mitchell would like a green border around the magnet. The magnet would still be a fund raiser for EAC.

Dr. Casas motioned to approve the magnet design with the green border. Mr. Richardson seconded. Motion carried 6-0.

Mr. Sablosky will look into pricing.

Riparian buffer map-

Ms. Canfield reported the list of addresses of properties along riparian corridors has been updated. She will look for the previous letter sent and bring it to the next meeting for the committee to review.

Sauerman Park Pond-

The fencing has been placed around the pond as requested. Signs will be installed as well. Princeton Hydro is investigating applying for a grant to turn the area into a wetland BMP.

The January meeting is contingent upon reorganization meeting of the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Sablosky will not be at the January meeting but Mr. Richardson will be present and will run the meeting.

The EAC still has an open spot available. It is being announced and displayed for anyone who is interested.

Ms. Woodbury requested budget info be brought to each meeting so the committee can review. Ms. Canfield will bring information to the next meeting.

Mr. Touhill discussed the amphitheater and the potential for EAC events to be held at the facility. Some examples might be movies or presentations in the park. It could be a marketing tool for the EAC. Time change would need to be considered for appropriate planning of events. The item will go on the agenda to be discussed in January.

Ms. Mitchell e-mailed the letter from the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society out to the committee members regarding their decision on the native plant demo garden contest.

Other

The next meeting of this committee will be held January 10th 2017, contingent upon reorganization.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Autumn Canfield
Special Projects Coordinator