

Doylestown Environmental Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes, November 13 2018

J. Baldassarre
M. Brooks
Judy Stern Goldstein (Planning Commission)
J. Herring (Supervisor)
S. Mason (Township Manager)
J. Mitchell (Chair)
A. Susten (Special Projects Coordinator)
D. Richardson
Dan Wood (Guest)
A. Woodbury

Meeting Minutes for October were approved

Budget was reviewed.

New Business:

PHS Garden of Distinction award for the Native Plant Demonstration Garden will be presented to the BoS on November 20 and all EAC members are invited to attend.

EAC article is needed for the Township newsletter. J. Baldassarre has written an article about recycling which will be edited for the newsletter (350 words).

J. Baldassarre and H. Shiver discussed their participation at the Haverford EAC Summit and the Climate Action Expo. These produced a lot of new contacts and good ideas to be discussed over the course of time. Ready for 100 is a hot issue with numerous other EACs, especially in Delaware and Montgomery Counties.

H. Shiver proposes that we ask the BoS to adopt a Pa Audubon Year of the Bird resolution. EAC approves this approach. The resolution will be brought to the BoS at the Nov 20 meeting.

H. Shiver suggests that the EAC members get name badges/tags. S. Mason tells us that the Township can produce lanyard-style name badges at no cost, and these will be provided to the EAC members.

Deer overpopulation was discussed. Some residents are concerned with the number of deer that are destroying vegetation, car strikes, etc. The deer population in this area is much, much greater than it was when the county was first settled, and this was confirmed by an audit done in Solebury Township. Hunting or culling are not allowed in the Township, and most private and preserved land is posted. In addition, many residents like the deer and would object to culling, and culling likely to be controversial. EAC suggests starting with an educational piece in the newsletter at a future date. We will also inquire with other EACs about their approach to this issue.

Unfinished Business:

Judy Stern Goldstein has reviewed and red-lined the proposed ordinance on Landscaping and Noxious Weeds, and described the various parts of the Township laws where this should fit. The three distinct

relevant sections are: 1) Zoning; 2) Subdivisions and Landscaping, and 3) Brush, grass and weeds. The Planning Commission was pleased with the work that the EAC did and the redlined version can now go back to the Planning Commission for approval and then move to the BoS for adoption. EAC approved this motion. In addition, J. Mitchell suggests that there should be an educational piece for residents which explains the ordinance.

Pa Sustainable Community Certification. S. Mason reminds the EAC that Doylestown Twp received gold level certification several years ago.

EAC Strategic Plan. H. Shiver has provided a second draft of the EAC Strategic Plan. All EAC members are requested to review and comment before finalization.

EAC Annual Calendar. A. Susten has created a draft annual planning calendar. A number of changes were requested, including adding dates for Township newsletters, and planning action dates (ticklers) ahead of the event dates.

Trash haulers and recycling. J. Baldassarre has written an article on proper recycling for the Township newsletter. In addition the County has developed an excellent informational brochure and has a lot of information on its website. We may also ask CB West or Del Val University to help us with an informational video for DTV. We should also consider recycling education in the CB schools. Recycling education should be added to the strategic plan.

A. Susten will register 4 individuals for the Land Ethics Symposium as approved last month. In addition, we are recommended to apply for a Bowman's Hill Land Ethics award for the NPDG. J. Mitchell will initiate the application.

VW settlement grant opportunity for EV charging station at new Township building. A. Woodbury and H. Shiver will work with A. Susten to apply for this grant.

Ready for 100. J. Baldassarre and H. Shiver attended the Climate Action Expo at Haverford College. Numerous townships are taking action to move their communities to 100% renewable electricity, especially in Montgomery and Delaware Counties. There is currently no Ready 100 coordinator for Bucks County. However, there are numerous tools and model resolutions available. J. Baldassarre, H. Shiver and T. Casas will meet as a subcommittee to propose next steps in December.

Kutz has gratefully accepted the EAC support for the ArtMobile at Kutz Elementary in April.

Other unfinished business was tabled due to lack of time.

Old Business:

The EAC Fall Speaker Series event with Larry Weaner was videotaped, but the speaker has lost his presentation, so it may not be possible to create a video. H. Shiver will ask T. Casas to try to recover the slide presentation from the DVC computer used for the presentation.

The 200 oak trees have been planted successfully and on schedule. The EAC wished to extend sincere thanks to the Township staff that did the hard work to enable the planting ceremony. There were 2 newspaper articles about the event which contained misinformation, and A. Woodbury will write to the Herald and the Intelligencer to correct the record. She is also working with a township resident to create an honor board for the new Township Building, and she showed a paper mock-up of the honor board which was well received.

Doylestown Bird Town Committee will meet again December 5 to discuss the Christmas Bird count.

Next EAC meeting is December 11 at 7pm