

Environmental Advisory Council Meeting Notes - 7/9/19

In Attendance:

Marty Brooks
Anne Woodbury
Tanya Casas
Jeannine Mitchell
Dan Wood
Andrea Susten
Jen Herring

Guests:

Beverly Rhinesmith
Paul Patent

Minutes Review

Remove the part from last month's meeting minutes about Marty Brooks and Don Richardson meeting with Judy Stern-Goldstein.

Minutes approved with corrections.

Township Building Landscape Recommendations

Marty Brooks raised concerns about the condition of the soil around the construction site. Debris left buried in the soil will be detrimental to plant growth.

Marty and Don Richardson developed and reviewed landscape architect plans for the new township plans. Marty gave a brief overview of the design. Further discussion on these plans will be tabled until the August or September meetings.

Container plants have been planted outside of the township building.

Environmental Advisory Council Strategic Plan

Due to Heidi Shiver's absence, discussion of the Environmental Advisory Council's (EAC) strategic plan will be tabled until the August meeting.

EAC Budget

There are no changes since the last report from last month's meeting.

Framing of our bird collage poster for public events cost \$371.23. The committee voted to approve the reimbursement of Heidi Shiver for the cost of the frame. The EAC will pay \$250 out of its operating budget and the rest will be covered from the donation by Owen Neal.

Table Event Supply Storage

EAC materials including the box of materials for table events, EAC banner and bird collage will be stored at Andrea Susten's office. Any members who need access to the materials can retrieve them there.

PA Audubon

Due to leadership issues, the state wide Bird Town program has been placed on hold. It has been hinted this will last several months into late fall or early winter.

It has been recommended that local Bird Town groups continue operating as they have been.

New Township Plants

Andrea Susten will be in charge of making sure the new container plants outside the township building will get watered.

Marty Brooks gave a preview of some of the plants that will be used for the landscaping of the new building grounds. Marty and Don Richardson will have a walk and talk with Judy Stern-Goldstein to discuss which plants to use. That meeting is tentatively expected to take place in August before the September EAC meeting. Planting is expected to take place in October.

There is no need to do planting along the pathway to the police holding area.

Green Points Initiative Discussion

Jen Herring proposed having the Township follow our Green Points recommendations in future township building construction, which would include the upcoming Parks and Recreation building. Suggested the EAC make a recommendation on this to the Board of Supervisors.

This will be discussed further in the August meeting.

Ready for 100

Jen Herring has received a list of current township vehicles and their anticipated life spans and will provide it to the EAC to incorporate in our vehicle replacement plan.

A draft resolution to the Board of Supervisors is prepared on Ready for 100. The resolution will be further discussed in our August meeting.

Emerald Ash Borer

Marchello Mongano, a regular attendee of EAC meetings, suggested looking into the use of a biological control for the emerald ash borer invasive insect. Marchello provided the contact information for a DCNR scientist who has additional information on this topic.

Jen Herring will follow up with the recommended expert.

Plans for Regional Collaboration

Heidi Shiver has produced a summary of what was discussed at our recent joint EAC summit.

- Doylestown Borough and Solebury are focusing on reducing the use of single use plastics
- Warrington is focused on Ready for 100

After tweaks to the summary, it will be provided to the other EACs.

“Quiet” Fireworks

Anne Woodbury presented a proposal for “quiet” fireworks. They are fireworks designed to explode a lower volume than common fireworks, reducing noise pollution across the area. Quieter fireworks could be a benefit to local wildlife, domestic pets and for residents.

The proposal is not an outright ban on fireworks, but a plan to shift which fireworks the Township uses to lessen the negative effects.

New Hope and Lambertville have started using “quiet” fireworks for their shows along the Delaware River.

Proposal will be discussed more in the August meeting.

Doylestown Bird Walk

Bird walk scheduled for October 5th. Andrea Susten will follow up on this to confirm.

Plastic Ban

The committee will follow up with the regional effort to limit single use plastics.

Native Plant Garden

Garden will be judged on July 22nd. An additional work day has been added for July 20th to prepare it for judging.

Native Plant Brochure

This is currently being worked on.

Wetland Signs

Next meeting to discuss signs for wetlands will be on July 29th at 10:00 AM.

EAC Table

EAC table is having significant success with outreach to our residents. Heidi Shiver, Anne Woodbury and Jim Baldassarre will be working the next table session on August 7th.

Doylestown Program Guide

The Township program guide will contain information on an invasive plant workshop.

The guide will also contain a speaker session on the topic of the changes coming to Fontheil. The session will be on Sept 18th at 7 PM.

Old Growth Forests

The EAC is coordinating with the Heritage Conservancy to document the history of Hart's Woods. Marty Brooks will lead of tour of Hart's Woods on November for those interested. EAC will coordinate with Heritage Conservancy to discuss plans.

The next meeting of the EAC will be on August 13th at 7 PM.

Meeting adjourned.