

## Doylestown Township EAC Meeting Minutes

August 10, 2021

J. Baldassarre  
M. Brooks  
T. Casas  
J. Mitchell (Chair)  
J. Schumacher (guest)  
C. Sawyer  
A. Walizer (Special Projects Coordinator)  
A. Woodbury (Vice Chair)  
D. Wood (Supervisor)

July meeting minutes were approved with corrections

No change to budget since last meeting

### **New Business:**

Poole's Corner Planting, Phase 2. Per previous plan, the next step in the plantings for Poole's Corner should be various understory plants. J. Schumacher's team has the plan. The hope was to do these plantings in the fall, but larger plants are hard to find, and watering is required. The recommendation is to do these plantings in April as part of the Arbor Day activity. Township approval will be needed to ensure preparation and maintenance. Doylestown Boro should also support this activity. J. Schumacher will review the existing plan and this issue will be revisited in September.

Bee Friendly Pa is a program to allow homeowners to certify their properties as "bee-friendly". No action required.

EAC Chair position will be open for next year. J. Mitchell informs us that she will not chair the Council at the end of this year. There will be a meeting with the Township on September 2 at 9am to discuss this opening, as well as the meeting agendas, meeting lengths and the number of projects. Anyone interested in chairing the council is advised to attend. [Post meeting note: this meeting was cancelled due to Hurricane Ida.]

### **Ongoing Business:**

The educational tree signs have been installed along the Neamond Trail.

The pesticide information pamphlet text is in final review by the Township and K. Raymond is creating the layout design.

Invasive plants: Jane Neal and a group of Master Watershed Stewards are working periodically to remove unwanted invasive plants from the area around the Central Park retention basin. The next workday is August 11, weather permitting. Removing phragmites will be a particular challenge and may require an herbicide, which will require Township staff to apply.

Single use plastic: H. Shiver is looking into ways to minimize single use plastic waste and is coordinating with Doylestown Boro and other local communities. Given the uncertainty of an ordinance or ban, the

first step will be an informational letter to local restaurants to minimize use of disposable plastic. H. Shiver has circulated a draft letter for review and is coordinating the message with the Boro. The EAC also recommends sharing the letter with regional convenience stores such as WAWA.

Heritage Trees: J. Schumacher has agreed to assess possible Heritage Trees as requests arrive. M. Brooks has been maintaining a list and will share that with the EAC to continue the program.

Native plants and maintenance of roadway median strips: Two median strips along E. Butler Pike have been suggested for a test case for the use of native plants to minimize pesticide requirements, and to use less toxic herbicides such as vinegar or salt. Plantings along roadways are subject to lots of salt and other factors which must be considered when selecting natives. E. Neal is investigating options, and M. Brooks will advise. No action this month.

Native America Memorial. A. Woodbury is seeking input from the local Lenape Tribal Council (Barbara BlueJay Michalski). Given how this issue has evolved, the EAC questions whether this is actually an EAC issue, and maybe an issue for the Parks and Rec Committee. A. Walizer points out that merging a Native American recognition with environmental education in Sauerman park could help strengthen any grant proposal to clean up the Sauerman Park Pond.

A meeting with the Planning Commission is scheduled for September 27 to discuss 2 issues: 1) possible preservation and reservation of unused parcels of township-owned land (open space) and 2) the model ordinance for renewable energy. The meeting is now scheduled for 5:30 at the Township Admin Building. Any presentations or documents will be shared before the meeting.

The joint EAC Summit with Solebury Township will be held on Wednesday October 20 in the Doylestown TWP Building. This will be a hybrid meeting, so attendees can webconference into the Summit. The agenda has been agreed; A. Woodbury, C. Sawyer and T. Casas are working on invitations. A. Woodbury and J. Mitchell will arrange refreshments.

#### **Subcommittees:**

Bird Town: H. Shiver informs us that Bird Town Program is under transition and will be reinvigorated as a bird friendly habitat recognition program. H. Shiver will chair a committee to explore the way forward, which will include new sponsors and a new website. The NestWatch program was very successful, with 12 boxes monitored for 4 weeks. The intention is to expand the program to more boxes over a longer period of time. The next scheduled bird walk is planned for October 9 at 8:30 am.

Invasive plant of the month: H. Shiver identifies Canada Thistle as the invasive plant of the month for July/August and prepared the materials. For the website.

The native plant garden work day for July drew 23 volunteers who worked on improving paths, clearing new areas for plantings, and thinning and moving successful plants to the new areas.

Ready for 100: The Ready for 100 subcommittee attended a demonstration of a fully functioning municipal solar system in West Rockhill Township. A lot of information was gathered, and A. Walizer has access to those project plans. The EAC recommends that the RF100 subcommittee present these findings to the BOS at the Sept 21 meeting. J. Baldassarre will prepare a presentation.

The next EAC Meeting will be held on September 14 at 7 pm.