

Doylestown Township EAC October Meeting

October 11, 2022

ATTENDEES:

Jim Baldassarre
Marcello Mangano
Anne Woodbury
Jeannine Mitchell
Heidi Shiver
Curt Sawyer
Erich Neal
Chad Clem
Stacy Crandell (Asst TWP Mgr)
Jen Herring (TWP BOS)

Meeting Minutes

1. Budget Review
 - a. Native plant brochure - \$1229 (1000 copies)
 - i. Motion to charge \$2/each
 - ii. Passed
 - iii. Anne approved to spend up to \$150 for EAC summit
2. New Business
 - a. Recycling at the TWP building
 - i. Cardboard recycling at the TWP building
 1. Stacy provided background - with the building redesign there isn't a good space and previously there was a bunch of trash that was being disposed. Not something that the TWP will pursue at this time.
 2. Jim suggestion - alkaline battery recycling - \$39/bucket in the TWP building
 - a. Jim will follow-up on the businesses that will accept alkaline batteries
 - b. PHS Tree Tenders
 - i. Heidi started the conversation looking into tree giveaways
 - ii. Heidi will organize a Birdtown workshop on tree giveaways in January/February
 - c. Heritage Tree registry
 - i. Historically, the TWP EAC would award Heritage Tree certificates
 - ii. Anne - Jeff Schumacher willing to learn the Heritage Tree evaluation process and Anne is willing to learn how to do this
 1. Anne would like to add a blip to the next newsletter
 2. Would like to create a binder of the historical award recipients (keeping in mind homeowners privacy). Would be nice to include information on Font Hill and Doylestown Cemetery
 - a. Jim has the historical documentation to share with Anne
 - b. Chad will help compile the binder with historical info
 - d. Tree City Growth Award

- i. Anne - TWP has never been awarded this. Anne offered to pull together all the paperwork and run it by Stacy.
 - ii. Jeannine suggested tying the tree giveaway and the Tree City Growth Award to Arbor Day
- 3. Ongoing Activity and updates
 - a. Lenape Memorial, design approval
 - i. Stacy update - Gravel cannot be in the area that is designated area.
Suggestions:
 1. No trees (smaller/columnar could be OK)
 2. TWP would haul in topsoil/substrate
 3. Plant selection (other than trees) was OK
 4. Stacy suggested bigger signage to indicate what the memorial
 - a. Anne mentioned we should be aware that the Lenape prefer natural materials so we should think about
 - b. Jim mentioned that it is important that we have the TWP support on these types of initiatives throughout the process as this has been a work in process for 6 years and now it seems that perspectives have changed
 5. Chad will pull together a smaller group to work through the details - Chad to work with Stacy to pull together TWP personele when we are ready for the next proposal to do a walk through. Jen H. asked to be included.
 6. Stacy will follow-up about moving the rock
 7. Stacy suggested a walk through the next time we present this with all the parties involved
 8. Anne suggested making the entry to Central Park much more inviting - replacing the 24 Rules Sign with a Park Map (Heidi's recommendation)
 9. Anne will notify Denise that she can release the Buck's Beautiful monies for this year and we will attempt to do this next year
 - b. Regional Summit
 - i. 44+ attendees plus TWP EAC members
 - ii. Will be in the big room at the TWP building
 - iii. EAC members arrive by 6 PM
 - iv. Jim will put together a sign-in sheet and will verify contact info for the e-mail list
 - v. Stacy & Curt will bring nametags for the speakers & guests
 - vi. Logistics
 - c. Light pollution mitigation
 - i. Erich - proposed turning off the lights at Saurman Park. Stacy is checking on putting all the TWP parks lights on timers. She still needs to hear from the chief.
 - ii. Jim mentioned that PECO may be able to offer incentives/rebates for energy efficiency lighting measures.
 - d. Bird town updates/plant sale
 - i. Bird Town - September at Font Hill - had a waiting list 20+ individuals. Now requesting 2 walks/year.
 - ii. Birdtown walk in Central Park on Oct. 8
 - iii. Heidi now providing a formal follow-up to everyone that attends a bird walk with links to helpful resources and thanking them for attending

- iv. Native Plant Sale on Oct 8 - Sold \$595 worth of plant material
- v. Bird Beat coming out w/o 10/10
- vi. Stacy provided update on BirdTown Signage - Dave T. assured Stacy that the signs will be updated to the new logo within 30 days
- vii. Heidi passed around a ballot for BirdTown board to the TWP EAC members to ensure alignment to endorse the slate of candidates
- e. Single use Plastic
 - i. Doylestown Borough had a public meeting on this topic late September with business owners
 - 1. What to do with stores with huge supply of printed single use bags
 - 2. What to do for the businesses that already provide paper bags that would now be forced to charge for those
 - ii. Jim expressed a concern that if the TWP issues a recommendation to voluntarily reduce single use plastics and then follow that very quickly with an all-out ban, it will feel a bit like a bait and switch. Recommendation to recommendation to reduce use but provide an indication that we are considering a total ban.
 - iii. Heidi will work with Stacy to compile a list of all the business
 - iv. Recommendation that the letter come from the TWP - Jim will craft the letter and share with Heidi before sharing with Stacy
- f. RF100
 - i. Stacy provided recycling tonnage to student intern
 - ii. Still waiting on data from PECO which has to be sent to TWP
 - iii. Student will be entering the data, but EAC will need to understand the process so that we can take it over after the student leaves
- g. Watershed Friendly Properties
 - i. Iron Hill and Ash Way - farmer is leasing the property from the TWP and has been farming on the land for 25 years (60-70 years). It is designated to become a park in the Master Plan of the parks (10+ years).
 - ii. Erich suggested an idea of speaking to him about changing the crops that he grows
 - iii. Farmer is using conventional farming methods and the pesticides are problematic for certification of the TWP property
 - iv. Stacy confirmed that the TWP is open to invasive plant removal
 - 1. EAC members can remove
 - 2. Non TWP employees and EAC members will need to sign a waiver
 - v. EAC will need to provide Stacy a work date
 - vi. Marcello, Erich, Jim & Chad volunteered to help ID invasives
 - vii. Stacy will follow-up with the TWP on how to mark the invasives
 - viii. Jeannine suggested signage for this area using the Basin signage as an example - Stacy will f/u with TWP
 - 1. Start with trees and shrubs before moving to herbaceous perennials
- h. Native Plant Garden update
 - i. This Saturday (10/15) an area within the Native Plant demo garden will be planted with white plants for a peace garden (Woman's Farm & Garden)
 - ii. October 29 is the workday for the month
 - iii. New mulch pile has been delivered and is in a more discrete location
 - iv. Jeannine suggested the "learning nest" like what the Delaware Botanic Garden uses in their woodland area with fallen branches

- v. Heidi recommended signage to provide history and plant list
- vi. Jeannine reiterated signage for the master park map - would need to create a map of Central Park
 - 1. Jen suggested that Jim could speak to the Parks & Rec chair
 - 2. Need to compile a list of specific signs that are needed for the park -
 - a. Jim will write up the recommendations for signage and run it by Heidi, Jeannine, Anne

Next Meeting November 1, 2022 (1 week earlier than usual due to Election Day)