

# Doylestown Township Environmental Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

## OCTOBER 10, 2023

ATTENDEES: Attendees: Jim Baldassare, Chad Clem, Curt Sawyer, Anne Woodbury, Jen Herring, Jeannine Mitchell, Erich Neal, Heidi Shiver, Stephanie Mason, Andrea Susten, Mandy Kollmeier, Chad Grzenikowski, Chris Smirga, Brook Hennings, Scott ???

- Environmental Programming
  - Heidi - Posing 3-5 different programs throughout the year
    - The struggle is finding someone to run the programs
    - Program guide is going together for Winter '24 right now - still soliciting ideas so may be able to get a program in
    - Spring deadline is due in February '24 for Spring '24 events
    - All programs operate at break-even or better (would need to charge for those events)
      - EAC needs to provide top 5-6 ideas for the year
  - Suggested Jim B connecting with Parks & Rec between monthly meetings
    - Parks & Rec meeting is just prior to EAC meeting
- Deer Control
  - Near TWP have 10-20x increase in deer population
  - Fencing is expensive option but may be better than alternatives
  - Consider areas within parks for exclusionary fencing - Hart's Woods in particular
  - Is sponsorship possible?
  - Need to get engineering/architecture estimates
  - Need to continue with the educational
  - Jim will do some homework on different types of fencing and minimum size and maintenance and present to the BOS
    - Burpee
    - Bowman's Hill
    - Delaware Botanic Garden
    - Citizen Science opportunity
- Parks & Rec - December Fest - Santa Event - Outdoor Event - Saturday December 9, 2023 - 1 - 4 PM
  - Arts & Crafts, Games, Cookies, Drinks
  - Would EAC be interested in hosting a table
  - Friday Night December 8 - Ms Claus event Jammy Jam - 6-8 PM
- Public Comment
  - Joe Salvati from Parks and Rec
- Approval of Meeting Minutes – September 2023
  - Tabled until next meeting
- Budget Review
  - Lenape Garden Signage would need to be submitted by late December - bill must come in first 20 days of next year
  - Heidi wants to use \$500 donation for native plant for Hart's Woods
  - Stephanie suggested that we would make a formal request to roll over the remaining funds

- Jim motioned that we roll over any remaining funds and the \$500 donation into 2024
- New Business
  - Environmental Impacts of Residential Chickens
  - REQUEST: Resident wanted to inform the EAC of the current requirements and requested that the EAC research be done on the topic and reconsider the current ordinance.
  - Stephanie clarified that EAC is being asked to evaluate the environmental impact of the chickens
  - The planning committee had too many concerns with roosters
  - Made the argument that chickens eat mosquitos and ticks
  - Currently bag all the chicken poop and throw away
  - TWP liberalized the chicken zoning fin 2018
  - Evaluated 16 local townships and 10 required enclosures and 6 did not
    - Doylestown TWP is one of the 6 that does not
  - What is the appropriate number of chickens for 40K sq ft
    - EAC did not see serious negative environmental impacts of increasing the number of chickens
    - Stephanie suggested preparing a memo and submitting it to the planning committee - Jim to write a memo and circulate to the team that only addresses environmental concerns
- Ongoing Activities and Updates
  - Heritage Tree Update
    - Northampton TWP reached out about this program and asked for details b/c they wanted to create a similar program for TWP-owned properties
  - Native Plant Sale
    - Saturday October 14 - Heavy rain predicted
      - Will make a decision by noon on Friday
    - Gino's asked if EAC/Bird Town would be willing to do a May event at their retail location
  - Recycling Facility tour at WM, Philadelphia
    - October 24
    - Attendees will carpool from Doylestown
    - 1 a
  - Climate Action Planning
    - DelVal presentation on October 18 - 6 PM - Part of the One Health series
    - Met with 3rd business representative this week (Doylestown Country Club)
- Adjournment

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 7:00 PM