

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting Notes by Sam Bryant
August 12, 2014

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In Attendance: Ray Hendrick (Chairman), Don Richardson (Vice Chairman), Jeannine Mitchell, Sean Sablosky, Marty Brooks, Colin Cameron, Ken Snyder (Board of Supervisors Liaison), Rick Collelo (Board of Supervisors); Sam Bryant (Special Projects Coordinator), Stephanie Mason (Township Manager)

Minutes

Approval from July 8, 2014 on motion of Mr. Brooks, seconded by Mr. Richardson; motion carried unanimously.

Hart's Woods Signage

The EAC reviewed proposed updates to various kiosks/fossil boards provided by the printer. Our contact at the printing company (Val) is currently on vacation, so comments on the signage should be provided to Ms. Mason prior to the next EAC meeting.

According to Ms. Mason, it would cost \$2,500 to replace the five existing kiosk/info boards, and if there are wording changes it will be even more expensive.

Demonstration Garden Update

Information provided by Ms. Mitchell:

There was a workday in July for a few hours to remove invasive species and to provide maintenance for existing plant material.

A group of ~20 science teachers visited the garden with Jeannine that month.

An Eagle Scout candidate wants to use the garden for his project; he wants to create a stone path that he will present to the EAC at the next meeting. It is expected to be 2 feet wide and 150 feet long, made of blue stone. The town stone pile did not have the right shapes/sizes for this project, which is expected to be designed to last long term. Safety concerns were raised that will need to be addressed, as well as creating a path that will not affect mowing in the area.

Information provided by Chairman Hendrick:

An individual in Warrington wishes to donate plants to the garden.

Mowing Issues and Concerns

An article from PSATS on mowing was handed out, and Sam Bryant was asked to scan/copy to distribute to the EAC. The crux of the article is that it is better for plants, the environment, and Township budget to mow less often.

Mr. Hendrick plans to meet with Butch Froelich and Richard John to discuss the current and next mowing contract. According to Mr. Sablosky, the Township recently signed a 3 year contract for mowing, but it could be negotiated.

Bird on a Wire Grant/Award Program

Ms. Mitchell stated that she has won this award herself in the past, and will work with Sam Bryant to log Township activities that would qualify for this award/grant.

Fall Newsletter

Chairman Hendrick stated that he had submitted an article for the Fall Newsletter, and read it to the EAC.

Autumn Birdwalk

The next birdwalk is September 20th and has been listed in the Park and Recreation Fall Program Guide.

To avoid copyright issues in publicizing the event, Chairman Hendrick stated he knew some photographers that did work out at Peace Valley that he will ask for pictures. Ms. Mason stressed the importance of getting proper permissions when using images for Township publications.

2015 Budget

Sam Bryant reported that he had begun researching if Doylestown Borough paid their share for the EAC Summit, but it wouldn't be more than ~50. Mr. Bryant passed out EAC financial reports for the group to see spending thus far on the year to calculate the next year budget.

Mr. Sablosky asked about the goals and intents of the Shredding Event, as it takes up a large amount of the EAC Budget. After much discussion, it was decided that Sam Bryant would look further into what happens to the shredding (whether it is recycled) and how it helps the environment. The EAC then debated having a dumpster to recycle other materials each year, such as tires or hazardous waste. Ms. Mason mentioned that in the 1990s Tire Recycling Days were popular. Sam Bryant was asked to check with the Township Trash provided as to the cost of a dumpster for such materials.

Supervisor Snyder encouraged each member to state what they would like to accomplish next year, and what funding would be required to accomplish that goal.

After this roundtable, it was decided that the EAC would request \$2,500 for new kiosks, \$2,000 for the recycling dumpster, \$1,000 for new signage, and \$300 for plant material for the Native Plants Demonstration Garden.

Other Items

Chairman Hendrick and Ms. Mitchell discussed places in the parks to place milkweed. This led to a discussion that the Open Space Committee had discussed creating a community and/or medicinal garden that would comprise 10 acres. No formal action was taken on either item.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:19 pm (motioned by Mr. Sablosky, seconded by Mr. Richardson; motion carried unanimously)