

**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**Meeting Notes by Autumn Canfield**  
**May 10th, 2016**

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In Attendance: EAC Members: Ray Hendrick (Chairman), Jeannine Mitchell, Anne Woodbury, Sean Sablosky, Tanya Casas, Don Richardson, Marty Brooks Supervisor: Shawn Touhill (Liaison); Autumn Canfield (Special Projects Coordinator)

Meeting began at 6:55pm

Mr. Hendrick called meeting to order: 6:55pm

**Minutes Approval**

Mr. Brooks motioned to approve the minutes from the April meeting, Mrs. Woodbury seconded. All in favor. 1 abstention, Ray Hendrick due to absence.

**Plan Review**

No plans to review.

**New Business**

Riparian Buffers- In the past, there was a mailing and Mrs. Mitchell and Mr. Hendrick visited a few properties to do walk abouts. The committee should look for simple answers that will yield results such as education information about mowing distance, introducing native species, weeding out invasive plants, etc. The concept is to get a patch work of natural habitat that will build corridors along streams. It may be of benefit to do a series of lectures regarding the matter and focus on those residents who live streamside. Mrs. Mitchell is certified in designing with natives and is willing to do property visits and offer suggestions of appropriate plants. Focusing on one section of residences at a time will hopefully create a string of people along a stream side to be the most effective. The fall speaker series should include riparian buffer discussions. It was suggested that a map should be created and left at the Township where residents can locate their property and identify if they are a crucial area. It may make residents think about environmental stewardship more. Another option is to encourage rain gardens and other green infrastructure. Mrs. Canfield will try to find the pamphlet that was previously sent to residents.

**Old Business**

Arbor Day- Planting was done on April 30<sup>th</sup>. It was a success with 93 trees and 36 shrubs planted. Once plant protection is put in place, reimbursement for the TreeVitalize grant will be sought.

EAC Summit- Speakers for the EAC Summit have been set. David Benner will speak about moss and Jeanne Ortiz will speak about the value of the environment. The date for the Summit is June 16<sup>th</sup> from 7-9pm. Invitations have been sent out.

Signage- Signs are still being sought. Ms. Canfield will work with Boucher and James to get them done.

Birdwalk- Overall, there was good attendance at the birdwalk. Mr. Hendrick indicated that he is trying to incorporate all ecosystems available for education. The Township nesting boxes featured nesting tree swallows on eggs and Bluebirds actively feeding their young. The next birdwalk led by Mr. Hendrick will

be in the fall. Mrs. Mitchell is leading a birdwalk for Kutz elementary 2<sup>nd</sup> graders.

Pine Run- Due to the cooperation of the Township and the County, a more environmentally friendly mowing practice will be adopted. As of 5/10/2016 Pine Run reservoir and Central Park featured nesting Meadow Larks, Bobbalinks, Savannah Sparrows and Red Wing Black Birds. All these species are ground nesting, grassland birds. This shows the success of the species in areas that are not mowed frequently as these areas were previously. It was suggested that the new Public Works Supervisor at the County, Kevin Spencer should be taken for a nature walk to demonstrate the benefits of the meadows. He has been invited.

Native Plant Garden- April 30<sup>th</sup> planting went well. Many volunteers attended the event and 500 plugs were placed from Archwild. There was a lot of weeding to be done before the plants were installed, but all the work was finished that day. The native plant brigade will continue to meet the last Saturday of every month to do a work session in the garden. All plants in the garden are healthy. Overall, 17 or 18 species were planting. May 28<sup>th</sup> is the next work session from 9 to 11am.

Mrs. Mitchell and Mrs. Woodbury will have their homes featured on a garden tour. Tickets can be purchased at the Doylestown Bookshop or at Bowmans Hill Wildflower Preserve. There are six total gardens on the tour. Mrs. Mitchell's property will also have Bowmans Hill plants for sale.

202 parkway- The fencing on 202 parkway is a continuous issue. It is consistently being knocked down. The committee believes a comment should be made in regard to the matter as one suggestion is to plant wild grasses in the area. Mr. Hendrick will read the letter that was sent before he makes any suggestions.

For next meeting- Mrs. Canfield will bring updated budget info. She will also reach out to Doug Tallamy as a potential speaker for the annual series.

**Other**

The next meeting of this committee will be held May 10th, 2016.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Autumn Canfield  
Special Projects Coordinator