

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting Notes by Autumn Canfield
January 10th, 2017

I:\Autumn\E A C\Minutes and Agendas\Minutes 2017\MinutesJanuary.doc

In Attendance: EAC Members: Don Richardson, Vice Chairmain, Ann Woodbury, Marty Brooks, Dr. Tanya Casas, Jeannine Mitchell; Shawn Touhill, Supervisor Liaison, Autumn Canfield, Special Projects Coordinator, Stephanie Mason, Township Manager, Dave Tomko, Director of Operations

Mr. Richardson called meeting to order: 7:03pm

Minutes Approval

Ms. Woodbury motioned to approve the minutes and Mr. Brooks seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Plan Review

Doylestown Hospital Expansion and Heart Institute plan was shared with the committee. After review it was decided to recommend to the Planning Commission that the proposed Blue Spruce are not used and instead, Oriental or Serbian Spruce be planted, preferably Oriental.

New Business

Budget info-

Budget information was distributed to the committee for use in planning of future projects.

A question about the meadow signage was raised and if the money for the signs would be taken out of 2016 or 2017. The Township staff intends to use the 2016 budget to pay for the meadow signs.

A potential opportunity was presented to the committee. The EAC network conference will be held May 6th. In past years, members have attended. Ms. Mitchell is leading a birdwalk that morning and will be unable to go. Interested members should inform Ms. Canfield so she can register them for the conference. It will be discussed at the February meeting if there are members who want to attend.

Fall Speaker Series 2017-

Ms. Woodbury brought information about a couple potential speakers, Joel Dunn and Michael Catania, and distributed it to the committee. Both seem like good speakers. Mr. Brooks will bring names of a few more potential speakers to the March meeting.

Due to the timeline, the Fall Speaker Series event is during the potential building project and will therefore have to be held at another venue. It was discussed to try and partner with the Delaware Valley University again for the series.

Bowman's Hill Land Ethics Symposium-

The symposium will be held at Delaware Valley University on March 9th. There is a fee but it is cheaper with early registration and the event may be of interest to the committee. It was suggested to send 1 or 2 members who could report back. It is geared toward professionals and offers continuing education credits, but anyone can go. Ms. Mitchell, Ms. Woodbury and Dr. Casas indicated they would be interested. Dr. Casas may be traveling and if this is the case, Mr. Richardson would like to attend. Mr. Brooks will check his calendar.

EAC Summit-

This event is typically held in June and will be affected by the building project. Ms. Canfield will reach

out to the Borough EAC who is normally a partner in the event and ask if they will plan and hold the event this year. If they are unable, it is a possibility to hold the event at Delaware Valley University.

Old Business

Magnets-

500 magnets were ordered as a donation to the EAC.

For the 200th anniversary, each board and committee needs to come up with a project to celebrate. Stephanie suggested that the magnets could be the EAC's project. The committee seemed to want to do something more. Going forward, magnets should be ordered sooner as their date makes selling them critical during certain times. The suggestion for the 2018 magnets is to have them start selling in December 2017.

"Environmental Advisory Council" should be listed on the magnet in the future. In past meetings it was discussed that adding this would narrow the range of appeal by making it too specific.

Native Garden Update-

Ms. Mitchell brought up the potential to dedicate the garden in 2018. A legend of plants could be created.

Ms. Mason suggested having a boy scout take a picture and make a sign as a replica of the garden with a map to show where plants are. Ms. Mitchell said the plants move around so a map would not be feasible. The ultimate goal is to have some kind of map and three or four guided tours a year in the garden and surrounding area. Ms. Mason suggested providing a list of plants that are found in the garden. Mr. Brook suggested have perennials be movable on the map as they are the ones that move around the garden. If Ms. Mason hears of a boy scout in need of a project, she will send him to the EAC. Mr. Brooks would like to meet with Dave Tomko and Richard John to discuss expansion of the garden. Ms. Mitchell would like boulders installed in the garden. Ms. Mason discussed this as a potential safety issue with people climbing on them. It is doable but the committee has to be cognizant and involve the right parties to ensure they are safe. Mr. Brooks is trying to obtain boulders.

Blue Bird Box Trail-

Ms. Mitchell spoke with Mr. Hendrick who indicated he had spoken to Rick Schea and Jim Baldassarre regarding the blue bird boxes. There is no set plan but there will be maintenance. Ms. Canfield spoke with Mr. Schea and got the list of boxes and indicated he does intend on cleaning them out. He said the boxes on 611 should not be cleaned by volunteers due to safety concerns and those on 202 should only be cleaned by parking in a parking lot and walking along the trail. Mr. Brooks indicated he had given Bill Mount a lot of wood to build the boxes and would call to check and see if he still had it. Male bluebirds will be looking for nest spots now and into February so the boxes should be cleaned soon. Ms. Canfield will let Mr. Schea know.

Magnets-

The green border around the magnets was appreciated. There is a question of how much the magnets should be sold for. The cost of the magnets is unknown so this will have to be determined. It was discussed where and how to sell the magnets. A table should be set up at the concerts as well as selling them in the office at the Administration building. There is a potential to use the Birdtown table at A-day to sell there. Word can be spread using Facebook, Twitter and the website. Ms. Canfield will ask Mr. Sablosky to bring the magnets to the February meeting so the committee can see them. Mr. Brooks suggested asking the garden centers to sell them.

Riparian buffer map-

Ms. Canfield brought a copy of the letter that went out with the original mailing. There were approximately 800 properties that letters and pamphlets were sent to in two different phases. Ms. Mitchell would like to send out the pamphlet she wrote with the Bucks County Conservation District with this mailing. Ms. Canfield will look for the pamphlet and bring it with the revised letter to the February meeting. Mr. Tomko feels information regarding the Township ordinance should be added to the letter along with a reference of where it can be found. Many changes were proposed for the letter to strengthen the message. Ms. Mitchell will revise and send to Ms. Canfield. The ordinance should be referred to if anyone has questions regarding maintenance of riparian buffers.

Sauerman Park Pond-

Signs are now in place at Sauerman Park pond in addition to the fencing. A grant is being submitted to turn the area into a wetland BMP.

Ms. Canfield presented information given to her by the Park Superintendent regarding the Spotted Lanternfly.

Other

The next meeting of this committee will be held February 14th 2017.

Meeting adjourned 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Autumn Canfield
Special Projects Coordinator