

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Notes
January 14, 2014

In Attendance: Ray Hendrick, Chairman; Don Richardson, Janine Mitchell, Committee Members; Ken Snyder, Board of Supervisors Liaison; Rick Colello, Board of Supervisors Member, Stephanie Mason, Township Manager.

Reorganization: Chairman: On motion of Mr. Richardson, seconded by Ms. Mitchell, Mr. Hendirck was selected to serve as chairman. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice Chairman: On motion of Mr. Hendrick, seconded by Ms. Mitchell, Mr. Richardson was selected to serve as Vice Chairman. Motion carried unanimously.

Visitors: John Rogers, Birdtown Presentation

Mr. Rogers provided a very detailed power point presentation on developing backyard ecologically designed habitats for birds using native plants, including biodiversity, green corridor and green infrastructure along Riparian Corridors.

Since the Township has Riparian Corridors already identified it was suggested that information be provided to property owners along the corridors to enhance their backyards and help contribute to the bird population in the area.

Letters will be sent soon.

Minutes

Approval from November 12, 2013 was tabled.

Plans for 360 Old Dublin Pike

Mr. Hendrick indicated that he went out to the property with the owners; he was concerned about barn owls, although they did not find anything, however there were some bat droppings. The recommendation was to have two bat houses built to PA Game Commission specs in the wetlands. Memo will be sent to the Planning Commission and developer.

Video Proposals EAC Hour

The Inconvenient Truth, Queen of the Sun and DEP You Tube.

On motion of Mr. Hendrick, seconded by Mr. Richardson the EAC unanimously approved airing these three videos once approval from the company is received.

Birdtown Demonstration Garden

Ms. Mitchell provided the committee with a lot of information of plans she has to create for the garden around the bird blind. There is money in the 2014 budget to use. In addition they are hoping to get donations from various gardeners and groups in the township.

Ms. Mason suggested that they contact Feeney's and other gardeners to donate some of the material.

They also have volunteers that will help them with the plantings.

Great Trees

This item was tabled.

Identifying Sensitive Environmental Areas in the Parks

The signs have been ordered and they will be installed when the Park & Recreation maintenance staff has the time to install them.

Magnet/Decal Fundraiser

This item was tabled.

Riparian Buffers

Ms. Mitchell indicated that she has a mailer to go out to property owners. She will coordinate with Ms. Zadell on having that mailing completed.

Big Green Box Battery Recycling

The County has recommended discontinuing the use for alkaline batteries, only rechargeable and lithium batteries should be collected for recycling.

The recommendation was to follow the county's suggestion and not take regular batteries.

The consensus of the committee was to follow the counties recommendation, they will order five boxes.

Mr. Colello indicated that Mr. Fehr, at the last meeting had indicated concerns and was going to research it.

The consensus was to check with Mr. Fehr and if he did not have any further recommendations to do anything else, the committee would follow the county's recommendation.

New Business

Spring Shred Event – Mr. Hendricks indicated that we have \$700 available for an event.

On motion of Ms. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Richardson the committee unanimously agreed to host a Spring Shred Event.

Correspondence

Kerrigan Sunoco letter from DEP – information purpose only.

Other Business

Mr. Hendricks wanted to say that Ms. Zadell, who will be leaving the Township to become the Manager of Chalfont Borough, really made his year as chairman of the EAC easy and that she was extremely helpful and positive and will be missed. He along with the committee wishes her well.

Backyard Bird Count

There was discussion about February 14th & 15th being the Backyard Bird Count and there are posters to help people with that.

Winter Solstice

Ms. Mitchell related an event that she had attended December 21st at Silver Lake Nature Center. It was all about the winter solstice with candles and a bonfire and the burning of holly as a symbolism of getting rid of your thorny past and embracing a bright future.

She indicated that this might be something that the EAC might host in the future. Although, people may have concerns about hosting such an event.

Future discussion on hosting such an event can take place.

CFL Bulbs and Breakage – It was suggested that Mr. Sablosky upon his return perhaps write an article on the concerns.

Ash Borer

Mr. Snyder asked about the Ash Borer information that was sent and the importance of that.

Being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:20PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie J. Mason, Township Manager