

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting Notes by Sam Bryant

April 14th, 2015

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In Attendance: EAC Members: Ray Hendrick (Chairman), Don Richardson (Vice Chairman), Martin Brooks, Sean Sablosky, Dr. Tanya Casas, Colin Cameron; Supervisors: Ken Snyder (Liaison); Township Staff: Stephanie J. Mason (Township Manager), Sam Bryant (Special Projects Coordinator), Autumn Canfield (Intern);

Meeting began at 7:02pm

Introductions

As he was unable to attend the previous meeting, Mr. Brooks asked for introduction to the new EAC member, Dr. Casas, and Township Intern, Ms. Canfield.

Minutes Approval

Mr. Brooks motioned to approve the February 2015 meeting minutes. This was seconded by Dr. Casas. It had unanimous approval.

Mr. Bryant informed the committee that he distributed notes for March, and had them on file, but they would not be posted publicly, as the March meeting had no quorum. Mr. Brooks asked about the beech stump mentioned in those notes, as he could help install it. Mr. Hendrick directed Mr. Brooks to follow up with Ms. Mitchell on that issue.

Award Announcement

Ms. Mason announced to the EAC that they were selected by the Bucks County Conservation District (BCCD) as the conservation organization of the year. They will be recognized at an awards event by the County Commissioners. After discussion of possible dates provided, the EAC agreed to try and meet with the commissioners on either June 3rd or June 17th at 10am.

EAC Summit

Mr. Bryant stated the EAC Summit is June 4th at 7PM. Speakers lined up for the event include Valerie Liggett, John Rogers and Kathy Salisbury. Ms. Salisbury wants the EAC to pick her discussion topic, but the group agreed that Ms. Mitchell should be present to provide her opinion. Mr. Bryant said that the Doylestown Borough EAC is aware of the event and will send funds for refreshments.

Historic Tree

With the cooperation of Doylestown resident Dr. Anne Rhoads, a retired senior botanist, with the Morris Arboretum at the University of Pennsylvania, Mr. Hendrick discovered a 300 year old white oak. Mr. Hendrick brought in a piece of a more than 300 year old tree he wants to preserve and display. Mr. Brooks asked where the list of Historic Trees was kept. Mr. Richardson stated he had a copy of the list that Dave Benner compiled, and he would send it to Mr. Bryant. Mr. Hendrick plans to display this tree at the next Supervisor's meeting and would like to note important historical events on the rings of the tree.

Arbor Day

Mr. Bryant said that the plant materials have been ordered from Octoraro with the TreeVitalize money,

and will be delivered the week of Arbor Day. They are in pots, to minimize any drying. Mr. Brooks said he had some advice on planting for Mr. Bryant. Mr. Bryant then reported he will have the appropriate protective materials by the date of the planting. Mr. Bryant said that thanks to the help of Dr. Casas, Ms. Mason and Ms. Canfield, 20-25 volunteers have been obtained for that day.

Mr. Bryant reminded the group that they also have to do a planting at Bridge Point Park by the end of November.

Ms. Mason informed the group that PECO volunteers will be working in the Township on May 5th.

Native Demonstration Garden Update

Mr. Bryant reported that Ms. Mitchell had to reschedule her Native Demonstration Garden Cleanup Day to May 2nd due to the weather.

Mr. Hendrick received some joe pye weed for the garden, and encouraged other EAC members to gather native plant materials where possible.

EAC Hour

Mr. Bryant reported that the Storm Water video and Soils video provided by the BCCD were approved by the Township Telecommunications Advisory Board on April 13th to be put on the channel. These videos will be added in the next week.

Mr. Sablosky reported that he found a live eagle camera at a state park in PA that could be used for the channel. Mr. Bryant stated he would discuss this with TAB.

Newsletter

Mr. Bryant thanked Mr. Sablosky for his article submission to the Township newsletter. Mr. Bryant asked Mr. Sablosky if he could make minor edits to the article, as a resident recently complained about a fee he was charged for recycling.

Mr. Hendrick stated the Peregrine Fund approved using their photos for the newsletter and the article he wrote.

Mr. Hendrick then passed around a flyer from PECO to give away free trees.

New Britain Borough Birdtown Cooperation

Mr. Hendrick also stated that many residents have complimented the kestrel boxes. Mr. Hendrick is working with residents in Warrington to place kestrel boxes on the other side of Bristol Rd to County Line Rd.

Mr. Hendrick met with the New Britain Birdtown organization to provide advice and guidance. They have a park that received a massive donation that can only be used for its improvements and maintenance.

Recycling

Mr. Bryant reported that finding a tv recycler continues to be a problem, and was noted as such at the recent consortium meeting he attended with Ms. Mason.

Mr. Sablosky spoke to Tom Hough about this issue, and he is expected to get back to Mr. Sablosky with possible solutions.

Mr. Hendrick said he would not be at the next EAC meeting, and that Mr. Richardson would lead it in his absence.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Mr. Hendrick at 7:54pm.