

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting Notes by Autumn Canfield
April 12th, 2016

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In Attendance: EAC Members: Jeannine Mitchell, Anne Woodbury, Sean Sablosky, Tanya Casas, Don Richardson, Marty Brooks Supervisor: Ken Snyder (Liaison); Rick Colello; Autumn Canfield (Special Projects Coordinator) , Stephanie Mason (Township Manager)

Meeting began at 7:00pm
Mr. Richardson called meeting to order: 7:00pm

Minutes Approval

Mr. Sablosky motioned to approve the minutes from the March meeting, Mrs. Woodbury seconded. All present in agreement.

Plan Review

No plans to review.

New Business

Birdtown Presentation in fall- Suggested speaker Doug Tallamay. This would be the EAC's annual presentation. Ms. Canfield will find out how much Mr. Tallamay charges and if/when he is available. The current plan is for September or October on a Thursday or Friday. There will be further discussion as the time gets closer.

Birdtown Update- Mrs. Mitchell reported on the Birdtown meeting held in Lower Gwynedd. She reported to the group that Doylestown Township has continued its volunteer efforts. Mrs. Mitchell requested to spend money for 500 shrubs and perennials at a cost of 95 cents a plant for the April 30th planting at the native garden. Mrs. Mitchell will make the order and Ms. Canfield will call with payment information. If trade price is better, Mr. Brooks will purchase plants and be reimbursed through the township. Ms. Canfield will also coordinate with Mr. Miele and Mr. Froelich to determine how to proceed with placing a faucet at the native plant garden water source. Mr. Brooks would like to get the bird blind painted. Mrs. Mitchell would like a temporary fence put up around the site to protect the plants and Mr. Brooks offered some that he already has.

The garden is in its third year and the plants are doing well. Another sign will be placed in a more appropriate location to deter people from walking through the garden. Eventually a more permanent sign will be placed.

On May 23rd, Mrs. Mitchell will lead a group of 2nd graders on another bird walk. Mrs. Mitchell was the recipient of an award through Birdtown, however it did not hold monetary value as it previously did. Funding is not as adequate for the current years. Mrs. Mitchell and Mrs. Woodbury will look at a list of plants and collaborate on the best plants for the garden.

Mrs. Mitchell discussed that there are fees associated with being a birdtown and they can be lessened by displaying their logo on the website. Ms. Canfield will make sure the logo is uploaded. The fees may also be reduced if homes are registered as habitat recognition. Ms. Canfield discussed that she believes

birdtown fees come out of the stormwater budget as birdtown activities count towards stormwater requirements. She will check on this and report back.

Mr. Garr was approached with a request from Delaware Valley University for space for a natural Hay garden. The EAC would like more information before it moves forward with any advisory information.

Budget- As budget time approaches, Ken Wallace, Finance Director, requested that the EAC begin looking at a three year plan of projects to budget appropriately.

Old Business

Community Garden Update-At this time there is not enough interest in the garden to bring the project to fruition. Research will continue to be done and a more focused group will be targeted for information. This includes homeowner associations and surrounding municipalities. Other preliminary cost information will be gathered as well.

Mr. Snyder asked about electronic recycling. At the consortium the topic was brought up to the state rep. She said she would look into it. Information will be passed along to residents about where to go for electronic recycling but it will be at a cost to them.

Arbor Day- Planned for April 30th between 9 and 11am at Neamand Tract. This will fulfill our Treecity requirement. The planting is funded through the TreeVitalize grant program. The new forester from Treecity will be attending between 10 and 10:30am. The tree list has almost been finalized and Ms. Canfield is working with the public works department to prepare the site. Volunteers are being gathered and all is going well.

EAC Summit- Ms. Canfield reached out to Howard Eskin and will reach out to David Benner to ask if they will participate as speakers in this year's summit. Once established, invitations will go out to surrounding EAC groups. June 16th between 7 and 9pm was chosen. Set up will start at 6pm. Doylestown Borough will be contacted for coordination of the event.

Signage- Mrs. Milligan has been working on sign information. However, sign design has to work through the engineering office and therefore will take some time to complete. Mrs. Mitchell suggested having two different signs. One will talk about what a meadow is and the other will discuss why it is important to care about meadows.

Other

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Autumn Canfield
Special Projects Coordinator