

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
Meeting Notes by Autumn Canfield
August 9th, 2016

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In Attendance: EAC Members: Sean Sablosky, Interim Chairman, Don Richardson, Vice Chairmain, Anne Woodbury, Jeannine Mitchell, Marty Brooks, Dr. Tanya Casas; Supervisor: Shawn Touhill; Autumn Canfield (Special Projects Coordinator)

Mr. Sablosky called meeting to order: 7:00pm

Minutes Approval

Mr. Brooks motioned to approve the minutes and Ms. Woodbury seconded. All present in favor.

Plan Review

The plan for the Enclave at Towne's Edge was finalized with a copy given to the EAC. No action needed.

New Business

Forest Buffer Grant- A riparian buffer grant opportunity was presented to the Township. There is a 50% match requirement and a minimum project amount of \$50,000. Matching funds can be in kind or cash. The EAC feels we may be able to locate an area of need and request the Township apply for the grant in that area. Ms. Canfield will check with Mr. John, Director of Operations, for guidance on where may be a good location and if he feels there is an adequate base of in kind match. Mrs. Mitchell believes there needs to be a survey of all the waterways in the Township which includes the quality of the banks. The EAC would like to pursue the grant opportunity as well as a stream side survey to establish health of buffers and determine public vs private land. The committee will plan for a riparian buffer article to be included in the next newsletter.

Mr. Sablosky discussed the facebook page his neighborhood set up and the prevalence of water contamination issues currently posted on it. As an update from DTMA, there is a 1 mile cone of influence that includes 400 private wells that DEP will be testing. Mr. Sablosky researched water testing and found companies can suggest appropriate groups of testing based on the industries in the area. This testing goes above and beyond the requirements of the Township water testing. The committee will consider a newsletter article regarding what a responsible homeowner would test for, required or not.

In the spirit of the EAC and its initiatives, Mr. Sablosky suggested the group work as diligently as possible to become paperless. Ms. Canfield will only print a couple of agendas and whoever is able will use their wireless devices to access the material.

Mr. Richardson brought up an e-mail from the Bike and Hike Committee discussing a trail grant that was acquired. The committee would like a copy of the trail map sent to them so they can better determine where the trail segment will be added.

Old Business

Meadow Signage- The committee presented multiple revisions for the signage in the park. Mrs. Mitchell and Ms. Woodbury are concerned about readability and correctness. While the signs are informative, there may be too much information to expect a person who is on a walk to stop and read.

The suggestion is to correct the current mistakes and condense the information. It was suggested to look at Bowman's for information. Ms. Woodbury and Mrs. Mitchell agreed to sit with Boucher and James to discuss the changes and revisions.

Fall Speaker Series- Doug Tallamy was chosen as the speaker for the Fall. Ms. Canfield presented the dates he is available and the committee settled on October 7th. The committee will partner with Delaware Valley University. Dr. Casas suggested a few groups on campus that may be interested in partnering for the event. She will check with various contacts to gauge interest. The group discussed possibly charging for the event. Students would have free entry but other would be charged \$5.00 to recoup some cost. Ms. Canfield will reach out to Mr. Tallamy to see if his discussions include a policy aspect to determine if more groups could be involved.

Record Tree Program- Mr. Richardson and Mr. Sablosky will join Mr. Brooks in measuring a potential record tree. All three will then know the process. The question arose of what if it is a very large tree? Is there a plaque or certificate that is given out? Where would this recognition come from; the Board of Supervisors or the EAC?

Fall Birdwalk- Mrs. Mitchell will lead the Fall birdwalk scheduled for October 1st from 9am-11am.

Magnet fundraiser- Ms. Canfield did some research on the Magnet Fundraiser. Ms. Finley in the Park and Recreation Department did the original design on the magnet, however policy have become more strict and a redesign will be needed as permission for pictures used cannot be attained. The redesign will feature plants, birds, the logo and the year. One option is to change the plants on the magnet each year so they seem more collectible. It was also discussed that multiple colors makes the magnets much more expensive but the committee would like to see the costs before denouncing having more than one color.

Native Garden Update- Mrs. Mitchell discussed the visit from the PA Hort society in regards to an award program. The garden was nominated for environmental initiative and representatives recently visited to evaluate the area. The results are not yet available.

Mrs. Mitchell passed out brochures that she took part in creating that can be openly used as educational material.

Other

The next meeting of this committee will be held September 13th, 2016

Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Autumn Canfield
Special Projects Coordinator