

## Doylestown Township EAC Meeting Minutes

May 11, 2021

J. Baldassarre  
M. Scott (guest)  
M. Magnano (guest)  
J. Mitchell (Chair)  
E. Neal and J. Neal (guests)  
C. Sawyer  
H. Shiver  
K. Raymond  
A. Walizer Special Projects Coordinator)  
D. Wood (Supervisor)  
N. Santacecilia  
A. Woodbury

- This was a 'hybrid' meeting with both in-person and online participation.
- Meeting minutes from April approved.
- Budget reviewed. No issues noted.

### New Business:

K. Raymond I suggests we create an EAC Brochure to inform residents of our existence and our activities. Kara can help design, and printing might be done by the TWP. Ideally would be available for the first table event on June 23. J. Baldassarre will contact Kara to suggest content.

Jane Neal points out the small retention pond in Central Park (facing the Native Plant Garden) is badly overgrown with invasive weeds, but there are still a substantial number of native plants which can be salvaged. Penn State Extension Master Gardeners and Watershed Managers need volunteer hours and Jane believes we can get a substantial number of volunteers to help revitalize a section of the pond perimetry, perhaps a section between the two existing signs. An expert assessment of the site will be necessary before work begins. The EAC endorses the idea. J. Neal will contact Penn State Extension to ask for an assessment. A. Woodbury will contact Parks and Rec to seek agreement and support.

Native American Monument needs refurbishment and plantings. Bucks Beautiful will donate plants if requested. Kids frequently climb on the rock so the plantings will need to be very hardy. N. Santacecilia suggests that we could reimagine this spot as a Doylestown 'destination' and a photo-op location. H. Shiver suggests that framing the monument with shrubs may be the best solution. C. Sawyer recommends that we seek a recommendation and input from a local Native American group; H. Shiver will pursue this.

### Ongoing Business:

Tree signs are delivered, and the stands will be manufactured by the township. As requested, the EAC has made a recommendation on the placement of 2 tree signs for Central Park, and Parks and Rec has

delegated final decision on placement to Karen Sweeney. The EAC would also like to create a few educational signs for the Neamond Trail area regarding wetlands and watersheds. The Parks and Rec Department would like to develop an overall strategy for park signage and location, making greater use of other parks. In addition, older signage, as at Castle Valley need to be updated. A. Woodbury will contact K. Sweeney to discuss this plan and final location of the tree signs.

The EAC letter to the Board of Supervisors regarding the proposed Rec Center was received and discussed. In addition, the estimated costs for the site preparation are higher than initially known. Alternative proposals for the Rec Center will be announced at the June 15 Board meeting.

The idea for township yard waste collection is still with the Ways and Means Committee to assess costs and benefits.

An informational pesticide brochure was created for review. Some suggestions were offered to include more sustainable alternatives to the typical regimen of pesticides and herbicides. The scope of the brochure was also discussed. The brochure is an informational piece for residents. It is not a statement of policy for the Township. The Township is contractually obliged to maintain the athletic fields in good condition to ensure a safe and playable surface. They are treated with pesticides by the Township staff. However, organic and non-toxic alternatives to pesticides should be explored and offered, perhaps as a side-by-side experiment.

The County has agreed to a good quality environmental assessment of the proposed Greenway trail. Any building work is now on hold.

Subcommittees:

Bird Town: Another bird walk was held on May 8 and it was well attended and there was a good range of birds observed. There is an eaglet in nest on the park cell phone tower. Four bird boxes are being monitored.

Invasive plant of the month is garlic mustard.

The EAC is proposing joint EAC Summit with Solebury Township. The theme will include deer management, and the Solebury deer inventory is still ongoing. Planning for the Summit should begin in June for a Summit in October. We will consider a 'hybrid' meeting with both in person and on-line participation. J. Mitchell will coordinate with Solebury EAC.

The Bucks County Ready for 100 meeting was held on May 5 and was attended by Exec Director of the BC Planning Commission Evans Stone and Commissioner Bob Harvey. The Counties plans were discussed. The County has created an 11-person committee to review all aspects of the County operations for energy savings, as well as opportunities for businesses and townships. The County is also investigating the possible development of a commercial solar facility and regional power purchase agreement. The County has also offered to facilitate RF100 outreach to other townships in the County.

The native plant demonstration garden had a very successful workday on April 24, with 23 Master Gardeners and 7 additional volunteers. The PHS will have another community garden contest (done virtually). Photos are requested to enhance the application.

The next EAC Meeting will be held on June 8 at 7 pm.