

EAC Meeting Minutes

April 13, 2023

In attendance:

J. Baldassarre (Chair)
C. Clem
J. Mitchell
E. Neil
C. Sawyer
H. Shiver (Vice-Chair)
A. Woodbury
S. Crandell (Asst Twp Manager)
J. Herring (Supervisor)
K. Raymond
M. Mangano
C. Smerga
J. Dixon

Meeting Minutes approved with minor corrections.

Budget is as expected with \$2234 spent year to date, but the General Ledger report seems to have an error. S. Crandell will check this.

New Business: The Board annual update is due on June 6. J. Baldassarre and H. Shiver will provide a draft presentation for the May meeting. S. Crandell recommends a brief presentation describing this year's past and current activities and plans for the year ahead. H. Shiver will give the presentation.

Ongoing Business: The Lenape Garden will be installed on Earth Day (April 22), and site preparation has already begun. C. Clam will direct additional prep on April 21, and the main event will be on April 22 from 9am till activities are done. J. Mitchell also informs us that there is some confusion about what bodies are authorized to speak for the native people of this area, and if they are properly called Lenape or Delaware or other. Jeannine will be speaking with a national representative of the Lenape this week and provide further guidance. In the meantime, the EAC should refrain from describing the garden in relationship to a particular ethnic population, and no signage will be posted at this time.

H. Shiver provided the Bird Town update of activities. A 'Big Sit' birdwatch will be held in Central Park on May 6 at 8:30 am. The Nest Watch program has 7 volunteers watching 23 boxes. The number of Bird Towns has now expanded to 40 municipalities.

There will be a volunteer day sponsored by Penn Community Bank, Bird Town Pa and the EAC on May 24 to clear invasives from Hart's Woods. Once the Burning Bush is removed it should be replaced with natives such as spice bush or hornbeam. This is a rain-or-shine event.

K. Raymond is working on an EAC information postcard for the table events. She suggests a 5x7 card, and she is working on revising the text and adding images. The costs for printing are modest. This should be in place for the summer table events.

Related to the EAC services, Judy Dixon requests that we provide some education to her HOA and the township residents. This could be in the form of a weekly e-News blast about a topic (such as pesticides) with a link to more information on the Township website. H. Shiver will update the information on the website soon.

There was a suggestion that the Township create a movable sign to be used when there is an EAC work event going on, to facilitate finding the event. S. Crandell will look into this.

The usual park concert location for the summer table events will not be possible. Alternative locations were suggested, such as the library, the YMCA, garden workdays and the Doylestown Arts Festival. K. Raymond will provide a contact for the Arts Festival and J. Baldassarre will speak with the library and the YMCA. J. Baldassarre will suggest a few dates. A. Woodbury will purchase milkweed seeds for the table events.

A good number of students from the West High School Key club have volunteered for various workdays and J. Baldassarre will notify the project owners.

J. Mitchell provided the update for the Native Plant Garden and the Watershed Friendly properties. In the Native Plant Garden clean up and expansion are ongoing. The bird blind has been repaired and woven 'birds-nest' play circle is under construction. A large number of various types of plants have been pledged as donations from several organizations and Jeannine will coordinate the distribution of those to various projects. Great progress has been made on the Sheridan Rd property and that work will continue periodically, with native plantings in the fall. Several workdays are also planned for the Ash Way location.

Clean up continues on the perimeter of the Central Park Pond, with a work party every Thursday evening at 6pm. E. Neil proposes that we place one or more floating gardens in the pond to help clean the water, remove nitrates and provide protected habitat. This idea was enthusiastically embraced, and Erich will provide details and a plan in the near future.

Next Meeting May 9 at 7pm.