

# Doylestown Township Environmental Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

## MAY 8, 2023

ATTENDEES: Attendees: Jim Baldassare, Chad Clem, Stacy Crandell, Jeannine Mitchell, Marcello Mangano, Erich Neal, Curt Sawyer, Heidi Shiver, Anne Woodbury, Jen Herring, Dan Wood

GUESTS: Joan Stuart, Taylor Stuart, Jemma Scott, Peter Dawson Buck, Brandi Robinson, Caden Vitti

- Public Comment - Joan and Taylor Stuart
  - Land being naturalized near their home
  - Issues with the naturalization - Off Ferry Rd - 111 Longwood Circle (resident address)
  - Company that mows grass has a contract with the TWP and used to mow the entire thing
  - Attempting to turn the space into a meadow
    - Field mice in their basement
    - Pollen increase/Dust & Debris
    - “Eye sore” - Neighbors “don’t want it”
    - Stated that standing water is an issue now
  - Jim recommended a small group from EAC and Dave Tompko visit the site
- Approval of Meeting Minutes – April 11, 2023
  - Approved with Heidi’s edits
- New Business
  - Climate Action Planning
    - Student final presentation (Caden Vitti - Penn State - his sponsors are Brandi and Peter)
      - Caden shared presentation of his work with the TWP over the past year
  - Next opportunities (Capstone/Shared Energy Manager)
    - Capstone is the next level of the Climate Action Planning process
      - TWP will be paired with another student from another university
    - Shared Energy Manager
      - Free consulting services provided by the state that can assist with specific climate action plans
- New grant opportunities
  - Many grants are being given out right now
  - EAC has been filtering the ones that look most relevant to TWP
    - DVRPC
    - TWP will need to provide an estimate for EV charging stations
    - Jim recommended we submit for the grant but it requires a TWP match - 80% covered by federal and 20% by local
    - Stacy said there are 2 locations they have identified for charging stations - Pooles Corner and a second
      - Due date for grant is May 14

- Jim to follow-up with DVRPC to see about extending deadline and providing a ball-park estimate
- Board of Supervisors presentation review
  - Anne to present on June 6 - Need to keep to less than 10 minutes
- Lenape Garden update
  - Regular maintenance will be done with Native Demonstration Garden - 1-2 master gardeners will inspect the garden each month during clean up
  - Jeannine suggested a "Peace Post"
  - Delaware Nation representative evaluated the text on the current sign and it was not recognized and she recommended that it not be utilized in the new garden
  - Could the signage for the Lenape garden be made out of natural materials rather than metal with digital imagery?
  - Dan Wood recommended EAC and Parks & Rec discuss future signage
  - Group to address details of content for signage: Marcello, Jeannine,
- Address the landscape under the maple trees in Central Park near the chess/game tables
  - Heidi will coordinate a time for a small group to evaluate the area and provide recommendations
- Bird Town Updates
  - Doylestown TWP group won the "Big Sit"
  - May 24 Community Day with Penn Community Bank - Providing \$10K to Birdtown and \$50-0 will come to TWP EAC
    - Recommended using for replanting after the burning bush is removed
  - Bird Walk May 13 - 8:30 AM Lower State Rd - Royal Bird Migration Day
- Table event dates and locations
  - Jim spoke to the library and they would not let us table outside their facility
  - YMCA would like to have us table on August 13 and they have a kids event happening
  - Jim will suggest dates for tabling at on Saturday demo garden work days, Ash Way work days and YMCA days
- Recycling Facility tour at WM, Philadelphia
  - Jim to follow-up on a September/October tour date
  - Heidi suggested that residents be allowed
- Native Plant Garden/Central Park Pond
  - Rain and communication issues have limited the number of attendees for the past 2 work days
  - Installed a number of small trees and spring ephemerals
  - Invasives have really established so (garlic mustard and multiflora rose)
  - Requested signage for the basin
  - Master Gardeners provided \$500 gift for plants to be installed into demo garden
  - Floating Garden
    - Erich shared budget to build a floating garden
    - TWP recommended that it be anchored
    - Motion to spend up to \$350 passed

- Watershed Friendly Properties (Sheridan Rd/Ash Way)
  - Ash Way Location - Heidi installed 30+ trees this month with a number of neighbors
  - Sheridan Rd Lot - Jeannine shared the plan for removing invasives, treating with herbicide, sheet mulching with cardboard and wood chips and planting in the fall of '23.
  
- Heritage Tree Program
  - 3 people have reached out about having their trees assessed
  - Anne working with Jeff Schumacher to coordinate assessing them
  
- EAC Brochure
  - Kara working on this - will be a rack card or postcard
  
- Adjournment

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 at 7:00PM