

**EAC MEETING MINUTES**

January 3, 2024

6:00 pm

1. Call to Order

The December 6, 2023 meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm with the following individuals in attendance.

Jon West	Chair
Scott McCartney	Vice Chair
Mark Smith	Member
Tom Alvarez	Associate Member
Denise Hull	Commissioner
Rebecca Moodie	Commissioner
Megan Weaver	Assistant Township Manager
Deanna Logan	Administrative Assistant

Joanne Walker was absent.

Present from the public, Dennis Wendt, Fred Hencken, Shane Dorward and John Simon.

Jon West was reappointed as Chairman at the Board of Commissioners Reorganization Meeting. Scott McCartney will continue as vice chair and Joanne Walker as Secretary.

2. Minutes of December 6, 2023

Upon motion of Mr. McCartney, seconded by Mr. Smith, the meeting minutes of December 6, 2023 were approved unanimously.

Fred Hencken asked if there is a better way to collect leaves instead of putting them in plastic bags and throwing them in the trash. A discussion ensued regarding leaf collection / composting ideas. Ms. Weaver said the Township put out a bid for leaf collection based on the bid of another township and our bid came in \$70,000 over budget so the bid was rejected. Ms. Weaver suggested doing educational posts on leaf removal ideas. Ms. Weaver will check with other Townships about their bids for leaf collection. The committee discussed some educational information going in the gazette and newsletter. Mr. Alvarez will write a best practice article for handling leaves.

3. Old Business**a. Initiatives****i. Environmental Education/Outreach**

- Arbor Day Native Plant Giveaway – April 27th 9 am – 12 pm
- Wissahickon Creek Clean up

Ms. Walker, Mr. Smith and Mr. Alvarez will be present for the Arbor Day Plant Giveaway. Mr. West will coordinate with Wissahickon Trails about location coordination. All orders for the Arbor Day Tree Giveaway are complete at a cost of \$3,550 to include 300 wildflowers and 140 trees and shrubs. The committee decided on a maximum of 4 wildflowers per person or 2 trees and 2 wildflowers per household.

- ii. Natural Resources and Open Space
 - Haines Run Streambank Improvement Project
 - Comprehensive Recreation, Park & Open Space Plan

The survey is open through March. The next open house is scheduled for March 27th.

- iii. Plastic Waste Reduction

The committee discussed a potential voluntary program for reducing plastic waste with an EAC incentive. A discussion ensued regarding how to reach businesses to participate in the program. Ms. Weaver will check with our solicitor about concerns about promoting a business that participates in the program. Mr. Wendt will draft the program with Mr. West.

- iv. Additional 2024 Initiatives

Mr. McCartney said the Task Force subcommittee is on hold temporarily until we get another member.

- 4. Land Development
 - a. 203 Church Road

Mr. McCartney compiled the committee comments on 203 Church Road for the memo.

Motion to submit the review with the revisions by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. McCartney and unanimously approved.

- 5. New Business
 - a. EAC Vacancy

Ms. Moodie and Mrs. Hull will be the liaisons for the EAC.

- 6. Assistant Township Manager's Report

Merck B41 and 825 Morris Rd. will be on the BOC agenda in January. 203 Church Road will be on the February agenda. The last emptying of the e-recycle tote was 836 pounds of e-waste. We need to come up with a couple of dates in June during unplugged week for the rain barrel workshop and composting workshop.

- 7. Upcoming Workshops and Events

- a. EAC Network Conference February 24th – virtual

Mr. West, Mr. McCartney, Mr. Smith and Ms. Walker will attend the virtual conference.

- b. Why Municipalities Should Consider a Utility-Scale Solar Ordinance (PA Audubon Council and WeConservePA) - January 22| 7PM | Virtual

Mr. Alvarez will attend the virtual conference.

Gwynedd Preserve MLK Day for Nature Event Jan 15 – 9 – 11 am – this involves pulling vines around trees.

8. Adjournment

Upon motion by Mr. McCartney and seconded by Mr. Smith, Mr. West adjourned the meeting at 7:44 pm.

Next Meeting Wednesday, February 7, 2024 @ 6 pm