

**EAC MEETING MINUTES**

March 6, 2024

6:00 pm

## 1. Call to Order

## a. EAC appointment – Dennis Wendt

Mr. Wendt was appointed to the EAC at the February BOC meeting and officially welcomed as a member.

The February 7, 2024 meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm with the following individuals in attendance.

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

Present from the public: John Tierney

## 2. Minutes of February 7, 2024

Upon motion of Ms. Walker, seconded by Mr. Smith, the meeting minutes of February 7, 2024 were approved unanimously.

## 3. Old Business

## a. Initiatives

## i. Environmental Education/Outreach

- Arbor Day Native Plant Giveaway

Mr. West will provide a flyer and order form. Mr. Alvarez will provide a list of plants/trees available for giveaway and will provide a writeup of each plant/tree. The EAC will bag mulch in advance of the event. The Boy Scouts are not available to help with this event.

- Wissahickon Creek Clean up

Mr. McCartney and Mr. West will try to recruit volunteers from their workplaces. The Committee will contact Tom Steinmetz to see if he is interested in helping. Ms. Moodie will alert her co-workers of the event to see if they want to participate. Volunteer numbers due to Mr. West by March 15.

- Unplugged Week

We are confirmed for the Home Composting Workshop on June 20<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm and Zero Waste Workshop at 7 pm for Unplugged Week. We will offer the Zero Waste workshop at no cost and not include a composting bin. Bins will be optional and available for purchase for \$10 directly from Colleen of Back to Earth Compost Crew and EAC will pay the difference.

The Rain Barrel Workshop will be held on Wednesday, May 22. Rain barrels are \$60 and the EAC will subsidize \$25 and limit the event to 15 ppl. Mr. Tierney will donate a barrel for the event. Mr. West or Mr. McCartney will attend.

- Social media and e-newsletter content
- Newsletter information due by March 14<sup>th</sup>

Ms. Walker will submit an updated article for the newsletter. Ms. Weaver will provide info for the Rain Barrel Workshop. Mr. West will handle the ad for Unplugged Week and Mr. Alvarez will do the write up for the Arbor Day Giveaway for the Gazette.

#### ii. Natural Resources and Open Space

- Comprehensive Recreation, Park & Open Space Plan

Comments were distributed by Mr. West and Mr. Wendt. A discussion ensued regarding making some of the passive open space areas into meadows and woods and enhancing riparian buffers with native trees, shrubs, plants. PA DCNR, MCCD, Natural Lands and other organizations have a wealth of resources available including equipment for meadowization and naturalization. Mr. Wendt asked how we are prioritizing the trails. Mrs. Hull said we are trying to get developers to build sidewalk connections as part of the trails, but residents are resistant to having trails in their backyard. Ms. Weaver said we implemented a fee in lieu of sidewalks if a connection doesn't make sense and we use those funds to build sidewalks where it will work. We are also trying to get funding to build portions of the trails. It is a tedious process that takes years to work on. Mr. Tierney suggested we should try and educate residents that crime and trails do not go together. Further discussions on trail configurations ensued. Mr. West said the Township should consider naturalizing the stormwater basins they maintain.

Mr. West will revise the memo prior to the next public meeting of the Park Comp Plan on March 27<sup>th</sup>.

A motion to submit the comments to the Park Comp Plan Committee as revised was made by Ms. Walker, seconded by Mr. Wendt and unanimously approved.

#### iii. Plastic Waste Reduction

- Program Draft

Mr. Wendt submitted a second draft. The committee discussed the second draft at length. Mr. Wendt will make further revisions and resubmit them at the next meeting. They decided on giving businesses decals to post in their windows regarding participation in the program.

#### iv. Additional 2024 Initiatives

- Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency

Mr. Alvarez attended a solar workshop but wasn't impressed with the information that was provided.

### 4. Land Development

There are no new land developments.

5. New Business / Other Business

a. EAC Networking Conference – recap

Ms. Walker said she liked some of the smaller initiatives such as battery recycling and string light recycling, floating gardens. Mr. Wendt suggested we revisit the small initiative list at a future meeting.

6. Assistant Township Manager's Report

Ms. Weaver said fallen leaves are left in the parks and are not cleaned up. The e-recycling shred event will be held on May 11<sup>th</sup>. 203 Church Road will be submitting a plan for a NPSD Bus Depot and the EAC will be asked to review the new plan if it receives zoning approval. Ms. Weaver said we still have to put the Hartley Drive Meadowization Project out to bid and there is no current timeline.

7. Upcoming Workshops and Events

Saturday March 9<sup>th</sup> - Upper Dublin EPAB Environmental Open House

Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> - Park Comp Plan Meeting

8. Adjournment

Upon motion by Mr. Wendt and seconded by Ms. Walker, Mr. West adjourned the meeting at 7:35 pm.

Next Meeting Wednesday, April 3, 2024 @ 6 pm