



EAC MEETING MINUTES

April 7, 2021, 6:00 pm

1. Call to Order

The meeting began at 6:02 pm with introductions of new member Brian Hutchinson who is a certified arborist. The meeting was officially called to order at 6:08 pm with the following individuals in attendance;

Jon West	Chairman
Erica Antoine	Member
Joanne Walker	Member
Scott McCartney	Member
Brian Hutchinson	Member
Sandra Zadell	Township Manager
Denise Hull	Commissioner
Martha Simelaro	Commissioner
Deanna Logan	Administrative Assistant

2. Minutes March 3, 2021

Hearing no questions or comments, upon motion by Mrs. Walker and seconded by Mr. McCartney the minutes of March 3, 2021 were unanimously approved.

3. Plan Reviews

There are no plan reviews.

Mr. West feels we have a good approach to the plan reviews to give the applicant good well thought out relevant comments to consider. He went on to say we need to consider giving background information regarding the recommendations that are made by the committee and what prompted the comments.

Mr. West explained to Mr. Hutchinson that plans are supplied to this committee prior to Board of Commissioners approval to get our comments and suggestions to present to the applicant. Everyone gives their comments on the plan and they are presented at the meeting and compiled into a memo that is sent to the plan applicant.

4. Old Business

a. Initiatives

i. Environmental Education and Outreach

1. Website/Newsletter
2. Logo

The newsletter is in final production and should be mailed out within the next two weeks. The EAC logo was included in the newsletter article and will be placed on all EAC correspondence moving forward.

ii. Tree City/Birdtown

The committee is going through the steps of being certified as a Tree City by the National Arbor Day Foundation and a Birdtown by the Audubon Society. The Arbor Day Proclamation and May 1st Arbor Day Celebration will fulfill two of the requirements of becoming a certified Tree City. We also meet a third criteria of a per capita amount of what the Township spends on tree care and maintenance. Mrs. Zadell said the final step is drafting a tree ordinance. She will review our current code and make some recommendations regarding the tree ordinance for the next meeting.

iii. Watershed Friendly Property Program

Some updated information on this program was placed on the webpage and social media.

iv. Renewable/Sustainable Energy

Some updated information on this program was placed on the webpage and social media.

Mrs. Zadell said the county wide greenhouse gas program is currently looking for members to serve on the board.

b. Arbor Day/Earth Day Project Discussions and Planning

Sarah Prebis, Parks & Recreation Director and staff will have a Community Garden Planting and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Earth Day. There will be t-shirts for the volunteers that will include the new Township logo. Most of the EAC members said they will volunteer that day. The EAC will be doing some plantings on May 1st for Arbor Day at 9 am at Center Street (before the bridge) planting six to eight balled trees.

The Committee will send their recommendations for trees to Mrs. Zadell by April 14th.

Mrs. Zadell suggested bringing work gloves and shovels to the Arbor Day event.

c. Rain Barrell Workshop update

This event will be held June 14th at 6:30 pm. We have room for 25 guests and the cost is \$35 for the workshop.

d. Winter Salt Watch

Mr. West and Mrs. Antoine participated in the Winter Salt Watch through the Izaak Walton League. Mr. West has been monitoring Haines Run and got a baseline reading of 25 ppm chloride prior to a winter storm and 142 ppm after a storm in December. In February, he took a reading after a storm and got a reading of 79 ppm and a few days later with snow melt, the reading was up to 290 ppm which is a toxic level for aquatic life. The Township does brine road surfaces which is a positive instead of using rock salt on the roads. Mr. West said some information was added to the website to educate the community on salt.

e. April Creek Clean Up Events

Mr. West announced the Perkiomen Watershed has a creek clean up on April 10th. Mrs. Hull will participate in the event as the rest of the committee will be at a seminar.

Wissahickon Trails is doing a cleanup on April 24th at 9 am. Mr. West said there is about six (6) sections in the Township where Wissahickon Trails does cleanup, and he will reach out to them regarding the EAC participation in the event.

f. Upcoming workshops

April 10, 2021 - EAC network workshop

5. New Business

Mrs. Zadell will ask the Board of Commissioners for approval to submit an EAC related grant application to the Perkiomen Valley Watershed Association for up to \$5000 for anything that is EAC related. We will ask for funding for the rain barrel workshop and Watershed Friendly Property Signs as well as other initiatives.

Mr. McCartney suggested we invite some EAC members from neighboring towns to a future meeting. Mr. West will invite Lower Gwynedd and Mr. McCartney will invite Upper Dublin for possibly the May meeting.

Mrs. Zadell announced the Board of Commissioners is looking to begin in person meetings in May. Committee members will send Mr. West an email stating if they are comfortable with an in person meeting in May.

6. Adjournment

Mrs. Antoine made a motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mrs. Walker. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 at 6:00 pm