

West Pikeland Township

Environmental Advisory Council

4/5/2022 Meeting Minutes

Attending: Council Members- Present: John Matthews, Bryan Maher, Janet Parry, Glenn Wenger, Rich Pomeroy, Donna Switzer and Linda Reichert. Public attendance- Kathy Hughes, Sarah Newman, Carin Mifsud(PT BOS) and Mike Leader

- 1) Call to order: 7:31 PM
- 2) Agenda was approved
- 3) Minutes from March 1, 2022 were approved.
- 4) No public comment
- 5) Old business.
  - a) Tree Planting at Pine Creek Park- Sarah: 1) Before event- WPT Grounds Crew used rented auger to prepare the holes for planting. Sweetwater 100 donated soil and mulch for the project. Tree/shrub/supplies will be picked up 4/6/22. Penn Extension Trailer with tools will be dropped off (4/7/22). Will need 50 more stakes to attach to the tree tubes. Carin said to go ahead and buy the tubes and we will get post-approval from the WPT BOS for the money spent on the tubes and snacks for the volunteers. Need clipboards for signing the volunteer waiver forms. Bryan will print out a few waiver forms just in case a volunteer forgets their form. 2) Volunteer sign-up status- Prep Day (4/8/22) is full. Planting Day (4/9/22)- AM shift need one more to fill shift. PM Shift- Need more for this shift, however, may be OK if the First and Prep shifts are able to get the majority of the trees planted. 3) Broadcast the Acknowledgement of the generous Donors at the event, post on the WPT website/Facebook Page and in the next EAC newsletter. Keystone 10,000,000 Tree Program and Sweetwater 100 were the major donors and they should be acknowledged at the event on a sign. Pineland Nursery donated 40 plants and they will be sent a note thanking them for their donation. A permanent sign for their donations will be made and posted at the planting site (Sarah and Donna) at a later date. 3) Days of the event- Sarah will take pictures of the volunteers, someone will have to man the table for volunteer sign in and Sarah will show the volunteers how to plant the trees/shrubs and remind volunteers to wear waterproof shoes.
  - b) Library/EAC book discussion and speaker: John- Book is "Nature's Best Hope" by Tallamy. Home Grown National Park is the topic and the guest speaker is Ashley Kennedy. The event is on April 12, 2022 at 5:00 PM. Would like to involve all of Historic Yellow Springs to participate in the Home Grown National Park. Need to publicize this event outside of WPT.
  - c) Shredding Event Recap: Donna- Felt the participation was light. Have decided to hold once a year shredding event after Tax Day as a Spring cleaning time.
  - d) Next working Session on the Phoenixville Regional Plan Grid: Linda- confirmed that this session will take place at her house on April 29<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM for one hour. Bryan will get the grid to Barbara before she attends the PRP meeting.
  - e) Pond at 1881 Art School Rd. property violation: Bryan brought up this subject at the last WPT BOS meeting. An investigation via the BOS has been ongoing for about 6 months. Rich printed the WPT ordinances for Flood Plains (2017) and Soil Erosion (2002). The DEP and Fish and Game have been notified. Not at remediation yet. Call Senator Comitta and DEP Hotline. BOS is on top of it.

- 6) New Business:
  - a) EAC Member and Officer Term Renewals: Bryan- Melissa contacted John and Janet to confirm that we will still be members of the Council and Janet will again be the Secretary. Donna is resigning from the Council. She will need to formally resign with a letter to WPT and she will be an ad hoc member of the Council. We need to find a replacement. There is an application to fill out via WPT. The EAC will read the applications, recommend an applicant to the BOS and the BOS will approve or disapprove the applicant.
  - b) Electronics Recycling Event: Noreen (WPT BOS) suggested WPT hold an electronics recycling event and combine it with other townships in the area. Donna recommends that we do not do this due to liability issues. She pointed out that Chester County has a well established program and we should get the information out about that program instead. Melissa should post this info on the website and Facebook page. Also have the information available at the book reading event.
  - c) Date for the next highway cleanup on 113: Bryan- New Sign from PennDot is up near Clovermill Rd. May 14<sup>th</sup> will be the next clean up day.
  - d) Feedbag Pollution Note: Kathy/Bryan- Feedbags are tangled and caught in branches along Pine Creek near the park. Bryan and Kathy propose to write a friendly note to the neighbors along the stream to keep their bags secure. Kathy already wrote one up. She will send it out to the council to revise. To distribute the letter, Carin suggested that we get the BOS approval and they can then mail it to the property owners.
  - e) Chester County Conservation Camp; Kathy- Publicize this camp on the WPT EAC website. Kathy will give the information to Melissa.
- 7) Announcements: John- VPP Grant update. We have the consultant for only one year. Would like consultant to focus on bench marking energy usage in the township buildings/autos and WPT residents. Help guide the township away from the use of fossil fuels. We should use the consultant to come up with a plan and then share with WPT community. BOS needs to get the information out to the community and start taking action. Time line for the consultant is first recommendations and then have benchmarks- need a plan to get info out to the township. Discuss with the other townships involved to see what their approach has been.
- 8) Adjourn 8:41 PM

Action Items:

- 1) Bryan- Print out more waivers for the tree planting volunteers.
- 2) Sarah and Donna- Work on design for the sign for the Pine Creek tree planting area. Both a temporary one and permanent one.
- 3) Bryan- Get the PRP Grid to Barbara.
- 4) Donna- Get information to Melissa on the Chester County Electronic Recycling program
- 5) Kathy- Get info on the camp to Melissa so she can post it on EAC website.