

West Pikeland Township

Environmental Advisory Council

2/1/2022 Meeting Minutes

Attending: Council Members- Present: John Matthews, Bryan Maher, Janet Parry, Glenn Wenger, Rich Pomeroy and Donna Switzer Absent: Linda Reichert. Public attendance- Kathy Hughes and Sarah Newman

- 1) Call to order: 7:33 PM
- 2) Agenda was approved
- 3) Minutes from January 4, 2022 were approved after changes are made.
- 4) No public comment
- 5) Old business.
 - a) Pesticide speaker event- Glenn: Michael McGrath will be the guest speaker. Feb. 24, 2022 at 7:00 PM. WPT Zoom account will host the meeting. Bryan will send McGrath the Zoom link to the meeting. Other townships would like to help pay the \$500.00 fee. Bryan will check with Melissa on how to proceed with this. The presentation will be recorded and Bryan will figure this out. Bryan will host and present McGrath so Glenn will get McGrath's resume to Bryan.
 - b) Tree Planting at Pine Creek Park- Sarah: 1) We will receive an assortment of 300 trees from the 10,000,000 Tree organization. 2) Pinelands Nursery will donate trees. 3) Green Valleys will donate trees. Sarah will check with Nancy on the overall plan for the planting areas. Sarah has Silver Maple seedlings to plant also. All in we will have about 350 trees to plant. Future plans we can add more trees later with our budget. Pine trees and more evergreen understory trees would be an added interest to the area. Octoraro Native Plant Nursery in Kirkwood, PA is a good resource to obtain future trees for the project. Would like to get informational signs for the trees/project. Sarah found an example through Penn State Extension- \$150-250 cost. It is like a politician sign(print on foam board with small metal stakes to secure it into the ground- not very sturdy and may not be the best for our needs). The content and design of their sign is very nice. They can modify it to our program/sponsors and a great education tool for the public. Sarah will check to see if we can get the file and use it to make a sturdier sign. Bryan will check with Natural Lands Trust to see where they get their signs made. We will need volunteers for the planting project. Bryan will make a QR code link to sign up. The QR code will be added to the newsletter, which will be handed out at the Shredding event and will be on the website. Bryan will get the QR code to Donna, who will get the updated version of the newsletter to Melissa. The staging for the project: 1) Bryan will coordinate with the township to rent an auger to dig the holes (TWP personnel will use the rented auger to dig holes) and use of WPT trucks to pick up the trees. The holes need to be dug on or before April 4th. **Was it decided who and when the trees will be picked up?** Sarah also said we can borrow equipment from the Penn State Extension. Sarah will price out a Beneficial Fungicide starter and Coconut weed guard mats. Want to make sure the cages we will be using will fit around the mats. 2) Prep Day- about 10 Volunteers will be needed for a ½ day shift to distribute the trees to the already dug holes. Plant Day- will need 20 volunteers per two 3-4 hour shifts. **Did we decide on a raindate?** Sarah will reach out to the Tree Tenders and Master Water Stewards for volunteers. Bryan will ask Jim if we need to have the volunteers sign a liability waiver.
 - c) EAC Poster- Kathy Hughes: She informed Bryan that she has the posters and will put them up in various places in WPT (i.e. Post Office, WPT Building, Pinecreek Park, Hallman's Store, Historic Yellow Springs, Earth Speak and Library). There is info on the posters to sign up for EAC projects and speakers. Willing to do signs for anything we need.

- d) Large Pond installation at 1881 Art School Rd. : Rich wrote up a Large Pond Violation Statement from the WPT EAC. It was approved by the EAC and Bryan will send it to Melissa to give to the WPT BOS for the next BOS meeting.
- 6) New Business:
 - a) The Mill at Anselma- Bryan will see if WPT EAC can partner with the Mill to help clean up invasive plants on the property (on a side note- East Pikeland EAC would like to schedule their roadside clean up on the same day as WPT EAC).
 - b) Township Solar Ownership Count- Bryan: WPT has been keeping track of Solar installations since 2015 with permits. 21 permit applications have been issued. Some may have gone up before 2015 so there could be more than 21.
 - c) Next Working Session: since Linda said we could do this again at her house and she is not at the meeting, we will table this until next meeting.
 - d) Library Book Discussion; Nancy Nigel at the library will coordinate this. Tallamy's Homegrown Natural Parks will be the topic. Proposing to have it on Earth Day 2022. Kathy will coordinate with Nancy on making the posters to advertise the book discussion.
 - e) CESP seminar series: John, Bryan and Linda have participated in this program for the last 2 years. Next seminar is Feb. 2, 2022 at noon via Zoom. Need to get the word out on the VPP grant to the participating townships. The money is being used slowly until the end of next year. Bryan and Dr. Bright (WPT BOS) are the contacts for WPT. West Vincent is ahead of WPT, EPT and Schuylkill townships, which we are in line with the last two on getting the word out to their communities. Solar Panel Alliance is a good resource.
- 7) Announcements: None
- 8) Adjourn 8:32 PM

Action Items:

- 1) Bryan- Mike McGrath presentation: Send McGrath Zoom link. Check with Melissa about coordinating the payment to McGrath with the other EAC's. Figure out how to record the presentation.
- 2) Glenn- email to Bryan McGrath's resume
- 3) Bryan- Ask Natural Lands who they use to make their informational signs..
- 4) Sarah- check with Penn State Extension to see if we can buy the file to make informational signs.
- 5) Bryan- Make QR code for volunteering at tree planting and send to Donna for the newsletter.
- 6) Donna- Send updated newsletter to Melissa with the QR code.
- 7) Bryan- Coordinate with township for truck use and auger rental.
- 8) Bryan- Ask Jim if we need a liability waiver for tree planning volunteers.
- 9) Sarah- reach out to Tree Tenders and Master Water Stewards for tree planting volunteers.
- 10) Bryan- email Rich's note on the pond on Art School Rd. to Melissa.
- 11) Bryan- Find out if Anselma Mill needs volunteers to help with removing invasive plants.
- 12) Kathy- Coordinate with Nancy at the library to make posters about the Library Book discussion.