

West Pikeland Township

Environmental Advisory Council

10/5/2021 Meeting Minutes

Attending: Council Members- Present: John Matthews (via phone), Bryan Maher, Janet Parry, Glenn Wenger, Donna Switzer, Rich Pomeroy and Linda Reichert. Public attendance- Carin Misfud, Sarah Newman and Melissa Delmonego

- 1) Call to order: 7:33 PM
- 2) Agenda was approved
- 3) Minutes from September 14, 2021 were approved.
- 4) Public Comment: Carin Misfud asked us to update the minutes with Melissa. Janet should email directly to Melissa.
- 5) Old business.
 - a) Pesticide research updates: Educate residents and have alternatives. Want a guest speaker online presentation in February. Will use the WPT Zoom acct. Websites to check out- Beyond Pesticides, NPI (National Pesticide), Organic Lawncare 101. Pyrethrin lasts about 1 year in the environment. For the presentation, focus on an organic approach and harmful effects of pesticides- maybe see if Michael Graph, the Garden Guru from NPR could present? John check with Green Valley to find out what they test? They do not look into well contamination, but they do look at effects on agricultural pesticides and macro invertebrates in the waterways.
 - b) Tree Planting at Pine Creek Park- Sarah: Checked out Grant Programs. PECO matches funds, max is \$10,000. 10,000,000 Trees Grant, apply for grant- they supply trees. Tree tubes, stakes and socks (to keep the birds out). Chester County Conservation District is a good resource, need to partner with them. Need to figure out the funding and sourcing for this project. Target to plant in the Spring or Fall next year. Consult with WPT Parks and Rec (P&R) and/or Open Space. What species of trees to plant, how many and where. John will present to P&R on the subject. WPT should participate in the "Home Grown National Park" program. John referred to the Tallamy book "Nature's Best hope" and that we should plant oak trees. Glenn suggested to see if we could get a grant from William Penn Foundation. It was proposed that WPT EAC should apply to 10,000,000 trees organization for a grant to help with our tree planting project. Need to present to WPT BOS for their approval and need volunteers to implement the project.
 - c) Township Solar Ordinance Draft: Rich- We want a draft to give to the consultant involved with the VPP Grant. Rich did a Google research and gave it to Bryan. Next step is to have a meeting with Charlie Humphreys and see where he wants this to do with this information. John mentioned that our EAC needs to encourage the WPT Planning Commission to be involved with this project. Rich will contact the Planning Commission via email.
 - d) ROE Presentation by Jeanne Ortez: John- sent an email to Jeanne and waiting to hear from her. Bryan provided 2 photos of Yellow Springs. HSYS do not have any stock photos. Still need a few more to give to Jeanne.
 - e) Spring Shredding Event: Donna- Scheduled for March 26, 2022 at the WPT building parking lot from 9:00 AM to 12:00PM. She will reuse the 10 signs she already has from previous events.
- 6) New Business:
 - a) Fall roadside Cleanup: Bryan- It will take 6 months to get the roadside "Adopt a Highway" sign up along the roadside. Next Cleanup will be Dec. 4th, 2021 (rain date Dec 5th), 9:00 AM to 12:00PM. Will need to buy equipment. Make sure this info gets into the WPT newsletter via

Melissa and onto the website. Bryan will contact the volunteers who volunteered at the first cleanup event.

- b) RF100 and PACEA strategy: Linda, Bryan and John- Great Renewable Energy Events with the Library, which fulfilled the BOS mandate with the Energy resolution to educate the township. We need to revisit the grid Bryan put together to implement actions with the Phoenixville Comprehensive Plan. Steps involved- 1) Educate residents on Renewables. 2) Library has a nook to get the information out to the community (Linda will talk to Nancy about this). 3) Bench marking solar projects- join the VPP program and adoption to 100% renewable. 4) Install charging stations- Walnut Lane might be a good spot. 5) Community solar fields- has been presented to the state house and senate, but it is stuck since the majority is not renewable friendly. Linda sent out a revised resolution to the BOS. The PRP has not been approved yet by the BOS, but they are close. Still need a public hearing- no date has been set yet most likely in November. The progress of getting this passed via our township is on par with the other townships- about 18 months.
 - c) EAC Ordinance Member Expansion: Bryan- Right now membership is 5-7 members. Should we expand the number? Need to bring this up to the BOS. Every January we need to recycle every three years. We may alternatively branch out into other groups like West Vincent where they have a Sustainability Group. It was decided we do not need to expand the numbers at this time.
- 7) Announcements: Next EAC meeting is November 9, 2021, 7:30 PM at WPT Building
8) Adjourn 8:30 PM

Action Items:

- 1) Janet- Send Approved Minutes to Melissa from now on.
- 2) John- Check with Green Valley to see if they test for pesticides in local waterways.
- 3) John- Present to Parks and Rec about getting a 10,000,000 Grant and ask for their participation.
- 4) Rich- Contact WPT Commission Planning via email about the Solar Ordinance Draft.
- 5) Bryan- Have Melissa put in the Newsletter and on the website the information on the next roadside cleanup event.
- 6) Bryan- Contact the volunteers from the first cleanup event to see if they want to volunteer again.
- 7) Linda- Contact Nancy at the library about getting information on the PCP in the nook at the library.