**WEST PIKELAND TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**AUGUST 6, 204**

Present: Linda Reichert, Glenn Wenger, Mike Leader, Bryan Maher, Sarah Newman, Carin Mifsud, John Matthews (via phone)

Action items in yellow

1. Call to order: 7:33 PM
2. Agenda approved
3. July minutes approved
4. Public comment: John mentioned the rumor that HYS might want to build a parking lot across from Life’s Patina. Carin said that she and the BOS have not heard anything about this possibility. John will investigate.
5. Committee representative updates: none
6. New business
7. 2025 EAC budget: Bryan asked EAC members to contact him with requests for project funding for 2024-25, ASAP. The current EAC budget is $4800, which includes the costs for Sustainable Saturdays postcards and mailing. Linda suggested that $ for a few Sustainable Saturday yard signs (which would have a QR code) be included in the 2024-25 budget.
8. Solar Ordinance review: Bryan created a rough draft of a possible township solar ordinance, a compilation of ordinances from Bucks and Cumberland County, and E. Pikeland township. He pointed out that there is currently no standardization of solar ordinances in Pennsylvania. This is in the very preliminary stages. Joe is reviewing the draft, and Bryan requests feedback from EAC members.
9. Invasive olive removal project at Pine Creek Park: BOS approved this project, as well as the purchase of herbicide, the cost of which will be evenly split between EAC and Parks and Rec. Proposed date is September 8 at 1 PM, with a raindate on September 15. Sarah requests that EAC members contact her about their availability and that volunteers bring cutting equipment, goggles and gloves.
10. Lawn Conversion and Rain Garden Sustainable Saturdays recap: Feedback was that this was a great event with a good turnout. 18 people participated in the talk, with visits to the gardens of Glenn and Sarah afterward. When queried, people said they learned about the event via postcards and Facebook.
11. Solar farm site discussion: Joe and Bryan talked about the possibility of creating a solar farm on the 68-acre parcel off Parker Hill Rd. that was sold by the Dietrich Foundation to WPT for $1. Carin checked the deed restrictions, which do not allow structures, only passive recreation. Bryan brought up the possibility of approaching the Foundation to ask for a change in the deed restrictions. Bryan and Joe will make a site visit in the next few weeks.
12. Old business
13. Jr. EAC member process: BOS will meet on Aug. 12 to discuss changes to the original EAC ordinance in order to accommodate the Jr. member addition. Request from Sarah to EAC for feedback about the application process. Sarah will send an email with a specific request and is asking EAC members to respond within a week.
14. Pine Creek Park Invasive remediation plan update: Glenn will meet with Spike to work out the details for when Land Studies will come to the park to do the work.
15. Topic for next newsletter: Linda will write brief paragraph about how to eradicate Japanese stilt grass; Sarah will send her online info. Deadline for newsletter submission is Aug. 20.
16. Tip of the month: Sarah will write a blurb about how to reduce plastic in school lunches.

Meeting adjourned at 8:31

Next meeting: September 10.

Submitted by Linda Reichert