

**EAST BRADFORD TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MAY 19, 2014**

The regular meeting of the East Bradford Township Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) was held on Monday, May 19, 2014 in the East Bradford Township Administration Building, 666 Copeland Road, West Chester, County of Chester, PA, 19380

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kathy Bergmann
Brooke Davis
Jeff Cantwell
Maura Sheehan
Steve Werner

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Dave Williams
Charlie Myhre

CALL TO ORDER:

AT 7:03 pm Chairwoman Kathy Bergmann called the EAC meeting to order.

MINUTES:

Steve Werner made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 24, 2014 regular meeting. Jeff Cantwell seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

WELCOME TO BROOK DAVIS

The group welcomed Brooke as a new member of the EAC.

DEVELOPMENT:

Mark Lucas could not attend the meeting so Kathy Bergmann commented on the following projects.

CICCARONE: No activity since the last meeting

CHESTER COUNTY ART ASSOCIATION: The CCAA landscape review is in progress.

COMERFORD SUBDIVISION: No activity since the last meeting

EAST BRADFORD TOWNSHIP CAMPUS: Construction of the new township facility is in progress.

NASTASE & TARASHI: EAC action is deferred until Mark Lucas, the township engineer can provide us information.

WEBSITE REVISIONS:

The revisions are in progress but not much happening due to limited staffing time.

SOCIAL MEDIA:

The Park and Recreation Committee's desire to have a Facebook page was approved by the Board of Supervisors. Brooke Davis indicated that they may hire a consultant to do the Facebook page. The EAC discussed our concerns for increasing the workload of the EBT staff.

LAND MANAGEMENT PLANS:

The plans to rent a large mower and remove the invasive plants are a "go".

MOWING TO MEADOWS WORKSHOP:

East Bradford Township, PA Environmental Council (PEC) and Natural Lands Trust (NLT) are partnering on a Meadows workshop at Paradise Farms on Thursday, May 29th from 7 to 9 pm. NLT will discuss creating meadows and the specific plans for meadows in EBT. PEC will discuss the benefits of meadows, show examples of meadows and give cost savings with reduced mowing. PEC will offer consultations for interested landowners. Flyers were mailed by Kathy Bergmann to ~10 HOAs and Mandie Cantlin sent about 175 letters out to other large lot landowners about this event. Jeff Cantwell indicated that it should be emphasized that the event is free. Kathy asked for volunteers to help with registration. The EAC discussed how to harmonize meadow planting with the EBT weed ordinance and with EBT residents' concerns about the use of herbicides (e.g. Roundup) in park and other areas.

STEWARDSHIP PLANS:

NLT will be preparing stewardship plans for Copeland, Shaw's Bridge and Sugar's Bridge this year. Brook Davis attended one of the explanatory meetings organized by EBT. At Copeland there is a wetland swale for a stormwater basin and the area above the swale could be naturalized. A dog park will be developed at Brandywine Farm to lessen the number of dogs at Shaw's Bridge. Parking and bathroom vandalization continue to be issues at Shaw's Bridge. EBT would like volunteers to help cut vines there. At Sugar's Bridge, there is discussion of restoring the pond into a fishing pond but the EAC does not think this is a good idea and a functional wet meadow should be developed to eliminate potential dangers. The scout project at Mt. Bradford continues.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE:

The Township will be starting a Comprehensive Plan update this year. The Township wants to do a Strategic Plan with specific projects that meet the mission of the Township. It was noted that the Brandywine Conservancy recommended blending the Scenic Byway and Greenway plans into the EBT Comprehensive Plan.

GORDON NATURAL AREA

No update

FORESTRY ORDINANCE:

No update

REPAIR OF FLOOD DAMAGE TO TREES:

Of the small trees planted at Shaw's Bridge 75-80% were knocked over and lost tree tubes during the severe April 30th storm. The larger trees (planting led by EAC) fared much better. The EAC discussed the challenges of taking care of planted trees and recommended only planting larger, more mature trees for future planting activities in floodplains.

DVRPC SOLAR READY QUESTIONNAIRE:

The group has a grant from the DOE to help townships with ordinances related to solar. Kathy will discuss this at the Chairs meeting and answer DVRPC on survey.

EAC NETWORK PROGRAMS:

Jeff Cantwell attended this program on 5/3/2014. The focus of most EACs is to protect water quality and some also get involved with open space. The only other EACs in the area are East Goshen and Kennett Square. Jeff reported that open space money can be used for open space management/maintenance after the debt for the purchase of the land is paid off. Jeff indicated some EACs have excellent newsletters and that perhaps we should consider one.

BRANDYWINE CREEK GREENWAY:

Kathy Bergmann indicated that the "to do" list for the Township has been published.

ABC MINUTES UPDATE:

Steve Werner reported that there was nothing relevant for the EAC in the Green Committee minutes. Brooke Davis reported that the Historical Commission is involved in an oral history project. It was reported that the Planning Commission had discussed the comprehensive plan and that a bike route was discussed linking Downingtown, Exton and West Chester.

ROUNDTABLE:

A reminder was provided by Kathy Bergmann about the Trailblazers Run on Thursday, June 19, 2014 starting at 6:30pm. The group discussed the Sunoco pump station affecting another township.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE EAC WILL BE MONDAY, JUNE 23, 2014. There will be no work session on June 2nd..

ADJOURNMENT: On a motion by Steve Werner and seconded by Brooke Davis this meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Bergmann
EAC Chairperson