

**EAST BRADFORD TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 22, 2016**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

**Brooke Davis
Dave Williams
Kathy Bergmann
Maura Sheehan
Mark Pontzer**

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

**Jeff Cantwell
Steve Werner
Neil Weissman**

STAFF MEMBERS/SUPERVISORS PRESENT: Mark Lucas

RESIDENTS PRESENT: none

OTHER ATTENDEES: none

CALL TO ORDER:

At 7:05 p.m. the EAC meeting was called to order.

MINUTES: Maura Sheehan made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 25, 2016 regular meeting. Brooke Davis seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

REPORT OF ACTIVITIES FOR 2015:

Maura Sheehan motioned to approve the Activities report of 2015. Kathy seconded the motion. The EAC thanks Charlie Myhre for writing the report.

EMERALD ASH BORER:

We need to know where our ash resources are in order to put together a management plan and determine potential future costs. We selected Harmony Hill, Sugar's Bridge and John Johnson properties to conduct our preliminary surveys. We initially had considered hiring Kendra as a consultant but this was not feasible so we working on hiring her as an intern through WCU. Before we can do any work including harvesting ash trees, we have to have to do a preliminary ash tree survey. We need Kendra's expertise to set up the ash tree survey, customize the iTree program and train core volunteers to run the survey program. For the survey we need to identify each ash tree, determine its health, map its location and determine whether the tree is in a location that threatens infrastructure. Maura suggested that we learn the iTree program and then we can train the volunteers on how to use it, saving time and money. The EAC will handle the resident EAB education and outreach and under the direction of the EAC we will hire Kendra to focus on the iTree program and survey parameters. Kathy Bergmann will contact Don Eggen and Andy Lister and ask for their help with the survey and EAB education. The Intern Proposal will be revised to narrow the scope and clarify the tasks. At our next meeting we will focus on education and outreach for residents.

TREE PLANTING IN SHAW'S BRIDGE:

On February 18th, Brooke Davis met with Robert Daniels and Meredith Mayer at Brandywine Conservancy at Shaw's Bridge Park. The focus was on three specific areas: location of trees, tree protection and setting a date for the planting. The trees have been ordered and the location of

trees in the plots has been determined. A date for the planting has been narrowed down to two: April 30th and May 14th and we need to pick one.

NEONICIDES:

We would like to ask the BOS if they would be interested in starting a program of testing well water/surface water for systemic insecticides (mainly neonicotinoids) which may be used on our eased lands. We would want to test wells/streams adjacent to the leased lands to establish baseline levels. If the BOS is interested, the EAC would develop a more detailed proposal on the testing parameters and costs. Maura motioned to approve the recommendation and Mark seconded.

HERITAGE TREES:

Request to keep on backburner.

DEVELOPMENT:

TOLL BROTHERS: The Planning Commission is compiling a list of conditions based on the suggestions from all the reviews. Once the list is compiled, several staff and experts will be called to testify at the Conditional Use Hearing scheduled for March 8, 2016.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE:

The comprehensive plan committee is currently refining a draft. Three main recommendations have been discussed.

1. Rezoning our vacant commercial properties to a mixed use (high density residential/commercial). Many of our commercial properties are struggling and there is no need for more commercial properties in these locations, but there is a need for additional residential.
2. Installing a sidewalk alongside Bradford Avenue from Strasburg Rd to W. Neilds St. Coordination is needed between EBT and the Borough of West Chester for this project.
3. Improving the bike trails and pedestrian crosswalks throughout the 322 corridor and requesting a bike lane on 322 from Brandywine Trail to West Chester Borough.

Review of ABC Minutes – EAC Committee discussed the relevant minutes

Brandywine Archery Club: The club is up to 52 deer.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE EAC: The next regular meeting of the EAC will be Monday, March 28, 2016. There will be no work session on March 7, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT: Maura Sheehan made a motion to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. and Mark Pontzer seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Bergmann
EAC Chairperson