

**EAST BRADFORD TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF APRIL 25, 2016**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

**Brooke Davis
Dave Williams
Kathy Bergmann
Jeff Cantwell
Maura Sheehan**

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Mark Pontzer, Neil Weissman (alternate)

STAFF MEMBERS/SUPERVISORS PRESENT: Mark Lucas, John Snook

RESIDENTS PRESENT: None

OTHER ATTENDEES: None

CALL TO ORDER:

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

MINUTES: Dave Williams made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 28, 2016 regular meeting. Jeff Cantwell seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

STEVE WARNER'S RESIGNATION: Effective immediately Steve Werner has resigned from the EAC. Steve has been a valuable member of the EAC for many years and he will be missed. Kathy will ask Neil Weisman if he would like to fill the vacancy.

EMERALD ASH BORER:

The BOS approved hiring Kendra to set up the i-Tree program and assist the Township with their Ash Tree survey. Kathy met with Kendra and started customizing the i-Tree program and setting up the initial survey locations. Kathy downloaded the data on to her computer and has worked with the mobile app on her phone. For the survey we will be using i-Tree Street and this data can be converted to the Township's GIS. The initial survey zones will be along the Brandywine Trail, starting at John Johnson Park up to the West Bradford boundary. There are a number of ash trees along that trail and they may be accessible enough to consider harvesting or healthy enough to consider systemic treatments. We also included a survey section where heritage trees can be located and accessed. A hazardous tree category was also added which can locate trees which need immediate removal. Each tree will have an assigned number for that location and the number will be marked on each tree. Kathy and Kendra will go out and mark the survey zones which will be 50-100 ft. along each side of the trail. Kendra and Kathy will be developing a training program for volunteers and order necessary survey materials.

TREE PLANTING IN SHAW'S BRIDGE:

The planting is on schedule for Saturday, April 30, 2016. There will be an area for overflow parking for all 40-50 volunteers. Brandywine Conservancy is bringing a tent, table, water, coffee and donuts. The trees will be delivered on Friday morning. The area at Shaw's Bridge where the trees will be planted is going to be mowed and watered. Brooke also has the waivers for the volunteers to sign.

DEVELOPMENT:

Tigue: The developer is refining their plans based on some questions that have come up. The plan looks like the original plan, but could be dramatically different at the end of the review process. Next hearing is scheduled for May 10, 2016.

Sportsplex: Still dormant.

NEONICOTINOIDS:

The Board asked Kathy Bergmann about the neonicotinoid issue and how best to address the issue within the Township. Banning its use within the Township would be very difficult to enforce. The best action on a Township level would be to pursue an education and outreach program for residents on the problems with using neonicotinoids and the link with their use to bee colony collapse. The data from some stream studies shows significant levels are found in surface water and there are concerns about the neonicotinoids reaching the groundwater especially in heavy farming regions. Chester County Water Resources Authority does not test local groundwater or surface water for the presence of neonicotinoids. Kathy Bergmann will contact Chester County Conservation District about the use of neonicotinoids in local agricultural operations and what their recommendations are for local farmers.

REFUSE AND RECYCLING:

Kathy did discuss with Mike Lynch some of our recommendations and they are considering getting yard waste as a regular pick up when the contract is negotiated.

COMMUNITY GARDEN OR CSA ON TOWNSHIP OPEN SPACE:

The Township would like to have a community garden or CSA in the open space instead of just using it for hay. The Park and Recreation Board may want to pursue these possible uses for some of our parks.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE:

Final draft will go to the Planning Commission on May 3rd. One new section is on energy conservation. East Bradford has higher energy use than surrounding communities. The plan recommends that the Township conduct an energy audit on their facilities and that we promote programs like community solar panels, energy star certification for new construction and PECO home energy audits.

BRANDYWINE ARCHERY CLUB:

There were 53 kills.

REVIEW OF ABC MINUTES – EAC Committee

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE EAC: The next meeting of the EAC will be Monday, May 23, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT: Maura Sheehan made a motion to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. and Dave Williams seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Bergmann
EAC Chairperson