

**Tredyffrin Township Environmental Advisory Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**10 October 2017**

**Present:** EAC members Jim McLaughlin, Thomas Szwech, Mary Westervelt; EJ Richter (BOS Liason), Erin McPherson (Twp Liason), Signe Hansen (Guest- Tredyffrin Resident), Rutger Boerema (Guest- Tredyffrin Resident)

**Not present:** Doug Anestad, Priyanka Kapadia, John Caruolo

**Start Time:** 7:05 pm

**EAC Introductions for guest**

Discussion of non-participating board member- In an effort to enlist willing and contributing potential board members, **Mary will contact absent member to request his desire to remain on the Board.**

Minutes from June 13 and August 8 were approved as submitted - phoned Katherine Ridella to obtain voice approval remotely.

**Old business**

1. Board of Supervisors response to our ash-tree report
  - a) No update from BOS, no discussion has occurred. Mary got quotes for another treatment effort, they were \$600-\$640 for annual treatments of two large trees. Decision needs to be made who manages the treatment (likely outsourced by Department of Public Works). Treatment can only happen between April and September, when sap is flowing in trees.

EAC to request addition of funding to Township's fiscal year 2018 budget. Request must be made before FY2018 budget is established by approximately December 15, 2017. There are several BOS meetings during which EAC can present the proposal. Erin suggests approaching the Finance Committee as well.

- b) **Tom will contact vendors for quotes to present to BOS.**
2. Party in the Park
  - a) Successful - Raffles of rain barrel, gave away plants, generated new contacts- some of whom already volunteered for an upcoming planting, \$84 generated towards EAC fund.

**New business/reports**

1. **Schedule for 2018 meetings**
  - a) Proposed schedule for 6 meetings, request submitted to Pat Hoffman for propose increase to 8 meetings. BOS must approve an increase. Erin/EJ suggest subcommittee meetings (3 people or less) where the bulk of work is performed, in lieu of additional formal larger-group meetings. Tom thinks a more rigid agenda for 2018 will help us make progress. EJ suggests clustered meetings scheduled around annual activities. Jim suggests forecast of annual events and to reserve formal meetings for new business/subcommittee team updates.
  - b) Current 2018 EAC meeting schedule is second Tuesday in Feb, April, June, Aug, Oct, and Dec. Decision is to go ahead with current 6 meetings/year (proposed dates to be finalized via e-mail) and plan regular sub-committee meetings and reports regarding specific tasks.
2. **Discussion of riparian buffers/live stakes.** According to EJ, our Twp has unique topography with a higher-than-average number of tributaries. That was the genesis for buffer plantings. This statement does not really answer the objection that downstream buffer plantings are not

effective if the stormwater upstream is still allowed to leave properties and run into the storm drains. Thus we should question the need for continued planting when the FY2018 schedule is generated.

3. Tree planting with Open Lands Conservancy Oct. 14, 8:30 to noon
  - a) Mary sent note to volunteers and received approximately five responses.
  - b) Jim to advertise on EAC Facebook
  - c) Signe suggests reaching out to local schools for manpower. Mary will make connection.
4. EAC Summit: Wednesday, Oct. 18, 6:30 - 9:00. Host: Haverford TWP. Katherine, Priyanka, Tom attending.
5. Westover update
  - a) Meeting with Steve Burgo at Westover (Mary) to take place on Oct. 18, 10:00 a.m. to review floodplain area and Girl Scout proposed path
  - b) Work Party: Jenkins Arboretum volunteers at Westover Thursday, Oct. 19, 8:30 a.m. to remove invasives and plant approximately 100 donated trees and shrubs
  - c) More holdups on placing signs at Westover- to be discussed at P&R meeting on 10/11.
6. Tree-tube maintenance Oct. 28, Wilson FP and Crabby Creek Park
  - a) Participants: current list on Google Docs, Sheet 3 of Composite Volunteer List
  - b) Teams- Mary to lead Crabby Creek, Jim to lead WFP, will connect as subcommittee
  - c) Supplies/tools: Katherine getting tube nets from Stroud. Mary pursuing source for tubes and stakes. Still no response from Octoraro Nursery.
  - d) Doug met with Darren (DPW) who agreed to mow between tubes in WFP. Signe confirms that mowing has occurred; possibly bumped some trees/tubes out of place. Doug to use weed whacker around trees. We need stakes for upcoming maintenance event.
  - e) Jim to advertise on EAC Facebook
  - f) EAC will submit article in next printed newsletter before December
7. Community garden in Chesterbrook? (What part if any would EAC have?)
  - a) Tom got this idea from a resident during Community Day. Potential for WFP? More likely a topic for P&R or community-specific HOA. Signe notes example garden in another township that was difficult to maintain.
8. Member Focus Areas
  - a) Tom mentions recycling, Mary mentions stormwater (Erin is champion of stormwater education), Education in general could be a focus. Group will seek to integrate these into forecasted 2018 activities.
  - b) Social media/Communication lead for advertising. There are several outlets for messaging within the township.
  - c) Priyanka and Katherine to provide updates on grant moneys by next meeting
  - d) Spreadsheet or calendar for 2018 structure to be pursued.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:00p.m.**

**Next meeting: Tuesday, 12 December 2017, 7:00 p.m., Tredyffrin Township Building.**