West Pikeland Township

Environmental Advisory Council

5/7/2024 Meeting Minutes

Attending: Council Members- Present: Bryan Maher, Janet Parry, Mike Leader, Glenn Wenger and Sarah Newman. Public: Carin Mifsud

1. Call to order: 7:34 PM
2. Agenda was approved.
3. Minutes from April 2, 2024 were approved- send to Carin.
4. Public Comment:

**Sarah-** Green Valleys Assoc. has collaborated with Phoenixville Middle School Water Club. They have set up a water monitoring station at Pine Creek and monitoring the trees around the creek in Pine Creek Park. Several 6th graders and a few 8th graders are involved.

**Glenn-** Will attend on Saturday the Northern Chester County EAC Alliance meeting. Attendance and activity have been waning. There was a 401 roadside cleanup with Beth and Litter Lifters group. Beth pointed out that we need to correct WPT website- change our roadside cleanup from 401 to 113.

**Sarah-** Master Watershed Stewards of EPT contacted Sarah and would like to collaborate with WPT EAC projects. Bryan will contact the Chair of EPT EAC (Dennis Ray) and will share our postcard with him and any other projects we have in the pipeline.

**Carin-** WPT has adopted a Bamboo Ordinance. The township can remove bamboo along the roadways since it can grow through the pavement. All for the betterment of the township. Glenn suggested we reference the Bamboo ordinance in the next WPT Newsletter

1. Committee Rep. updates:

**Glenn**: Open Space- WPT bought the rights to develop on Peace by Piece Farm. The land is conserved and cannot be split up into smaller lots.

**Sarah:** Parks and Rec- Russian Olive branches are hanging over the tree plantings in the front field at Pine Creek Park. This area is on the Natural Lands conserved easement area. Sarah will check with Natural Lands to see if they will cut back the branches. P n R would like to connect the Mill of Anselma and Walnut Lane Park via a trail that will need to be cut through. Sarah will start this project with P n R.

1. New Business
2. HYS Open House invitees and updates- Bryan: Bryan will meet with HYS after the Art Show to review the list of potential vendors/nonprofits/local businesses etc. Bryan went to a few Earth Day festivals in the area and collected a number of cards from booths. Will need to decide who to invite to the Open House October event from the list. Want to spread out the booths
3. Sustainable Saturday Recap- Mike: Event occurred on April 20- the PECO assessment presentation.10 People attended the event and five attendees signed up for the free Assessment. Mike would like to have more attendees- the event was advertised on the WPT website, Newsletter and the postcard was sent out to WPT residents. Not sure if the Sustainable Saturday Events were diluted out with combining the other events. There were 53 views on the website. Mike put invitations into neighbor mailboxes. Bryan hopes the next Sustainable Saturday events will be more enticing. Mike would like to have a banner to advertise the events. Sarah commented that Mike did an excellent job summarizing the subject before PECO’s presentation. Next meeting will be on June 22 and Geothermal will be covered. Janet suggested that we video tape the presentation for those who cannot attend the events. Carin will check with Joe and Melissa to see if the township could start an initiative with uploading presentations to youTube.
4. Old Business.
5. Jr. EAC Member Update- Sarah: No forward action yet with WPT. Sarah proposed that instead of just for Junior Members, we could branch out to include Associate Members (adults too). These members attend meetings, loosely involved. Tredyffrin Township uses this model. They have 3 adults and 2 youth members. They are considered temporary members with environmental leanings. For the Youth Members we will need to come up with different description. Will WPT pay for the background checks? We first need to come up with a description, go before the BOS and then discuss the clearances. At the June meeting, we will use 15-20 minutes to come up with a plan for the Youth Member information and discuss the Associate Member. Our objective is to have the plan ready to present to BOS in August.
6. Pine Creek Park Invasive Remediation plan update- Glenn: Nothing to report
7. Topic for WPT Next Newsletter- New WPT Bamboo Ordinance- Glenn
8. Tip of the Day for next WPT Newsletter: Idling of cars- Mike
9. Solar Ordinance Request- Bryan: Sourcing out model solar energy.
10. Pine Creek Park Tree Maintenance results- Sarah: Only 5 volunteers. Caging maintenance is all done for all trees. Weeding was finished for the upper quadrant- still need to weed the tree cages in the lower quadrant. Need to finish this sooner rather than later- schedule volunteers for a Sunday afternoon and hopefully P n R will participate.
11. Announcements: Next meeting is June 4, 2024 at 7:30.
12. Adjourn: 8:38 PM

Action Items:

1. Bryan- Correct the Road Cleanup announcement in newsletter to 113 (not 401).
2. Bryan- Contact Dennis Ray at EPT EAC to coordinate with our projects.
3. Sarah- Ask Natural Lands about removing the Russian Olive branches overhaning the tree plantings at Pine Creek Park.
4. Sarah-Coordinate the trail connection from Walnut Lane Park to Anselma Mill.
5. Carin- Check with Joe and Melissa about a WPT YouTube channel.
6. Glenn- Write up a blurb for the newsletter on the Bamboo Ordinance and why it is important to remove Bamboo.
7. Mike- Write up Tip of the Month on Idling Cars for the newsletter.