

SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
VIRTUAL MEETING
MINUTES OF APRIL 13TH 2021

PRESENT: Christy Cheever (Vice Chair), Hope Blaythorne, Jim Mansfield, William Birnes, Joe Kubiak, John Francis (Liaison) and Christine Terranova (Administrator)

ABSENT: Eric Allen (Chair) and Barry Fetterolf

I. OPENING OF MEETING

Vice Chair Cheever called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 9th, 2021

Upon a Motion by Bill Birnes, seconded by Jim Mansfield, the meeting minutes for March 9th, 2021 were unanimously approved.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Terranova announced the following from an email received from Ms. Blaythorne: The EnviroDIY-DRWI meeting will be held on Thursday, April 15, 2021, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. and the presentation this month will be by Patty Haug, West Chester University graduate student and Master Watershed Steward. Ms. Haug will be talking about her research on salt contamination of five streams in West Chester, Pennsylvania, and about her experience in collaboratively managing five EnviroDIY monitoring stations.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

EAC Logo and Re-useable Bag Drive (Christy Cheever)

Vice Chair Cheever suggested that the Council consider creating their own logo to be used on the committee's own projects.

Mr. Mansfield asked what would be the value of having our own logo as compared to using the Township logo.

Vice Chair Cheever felt it would be helpful to use a committee logo for the bag benefit drive and any other benefit(s) that EAC may create to "spark" interest in the committee.

Mr. Francis suggested to “mesh” the new logo with the township logo so that people will connect the two as being associated with each other.

Vice Chair Cheever volunteered to look into what would be involved to trademark a logo for the EAC.

Mr. Birnes stated that you have to be careful not to create a trademark too close to another established trademark because it would cause a conflict.

Mr. Francis stated that EAC would have to present a proposal to the Board of Supervisors for approval to receive financial support for the bag benefit project. Sponsorship is also something to consider to get support for the project.

Vice Chair Cheever stated that a decision would be needed on where the distribution would take place; either one location or multiple locations. Also, to include in each bag a handout on the importance of using the recyclable bags rather than plastic bags.

Report on Audubon Earth Day Participation (Jim Mansfield)

Mr. Mansfield spoke about the in-person Earth Day Fair at the Bucks County Audubon that included many vendors, artists and advocates. EAC had two tables setup to distribute handouts.

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Ready for 100 (Jim Mansfield)

Mr. Mansfield stated that he has now attended the 24th session to the Ready for 100 program which was a discussion on microgrids which are defined as sustainable grids. One speaker was a gentleman from the Philadelphia Navy Yard to speak about their generator plant.

Mr. Mansfield mentioned that the course will end in late May. It was mentioned that there would be more interaction on a County level with renewable energy and sustainability in the future months.

Wild Area Stewardship/Tree City/Bird Town (Hope Blaythorne)

Ms. Blaythorne noted that in working with the plan and a time line for Bird Town 2021 will require volunteers. The yard registration has been formalized for residents and businesses within the Township.

Ms. Blaythorne made the following suggestions to get started with a campaign for the program:

- A newspaper article to endorse the Solebury Township Bird Town program
- Culminate in the Fall with an adopt a bird program
- Educate people on the program and then putting out the registration process to the public
- Setting some goals at this time for the future
- Partnering with the Audubon Society to get started
- Follow the provided list in creating a habitat for the birds on your property

Liaison Francis suggested to enroll the various township parks and the township building property into the Bird Town program.

Adopt-A-Highway/Cleanup Park (Christy Cheever)

Vice Chair Cheever stated that she did receive the agreement from PennDOT to acquire the portion of highway to adopt located on Sagan Road and Phillips Mill Road for the cleanup program. She is waiting to hear back from PennDOT regarding a sign that is placed in that particular stretch of road to show that the portion of roadway was already adopted. Hopefully PennDOT will be able to clarify the status of the roadway.

Deer Management (Eric Allen)

Vice Chair reported for Chair Allen (in his absence) that the results of the drone survey have not been released yet and that the USDA is also conducting their own census, so EAC is waiting for the release of that information.

Cold-Tar-Based Sealcoat (Joe Kubiak)

Mr. Kubiak attended the April 6th Zoom Board of Supervisors meeting to give a presentation concerning cold-tar-based sealcoat. It was suggested by the supervisors to place something in the Bucks County Herald as an aware to residents when looking to seal their driveways. The draft of the letter to be sent out to the homeowner's associations, for the residents, will be presented at the next supervisors' meeting on April 20th for approval to be distributed.

Best Future for the Township Purchased 202 Property

It was noted that the Board of Supervisors are still collecting ideas on what the community would like to see develop on the property. Mr.Kubiak suggested to add a dog park combined with a regular park, in addition to community gardens to be available for the residents to grow and maintain flowers or vegetables.

New Hope Solebury Quarry (Hope Blaythorne)

Ms. Blaythorne offered to distribute to the members the latest drone footage taken in early April. It was noted that the township is expecting to hear from the DEP on Wednesday, May 5th to receive an update on the quarry.

Charging Stations (Eric Allen)

Liaison Francis mentioned that the township is currently installing two charging stations in the township parking lot.

VI. Public Comment

Vice Chair Cheever mentioned that there is a paper bag shortage at McCafferty's food store, and they are now using plastic bags to bag the groceries.

VII. Adjournment

Vice Chair Cheever adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Christine Terranova
EAC Administrator
Solebury Township