

**RADNOR TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**

MINUTES

The May meeting of the Radnor Township Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) was called to Order by Sloan Walker at 6:00 P.M. on May 22, 2014 at the Radnor Township Municipal Building, Radnorshire Room, 301 Iven Avenue, Wayne, Pennsylvania.

Those present were:

Sloan Walker, Vice Chairperson
Sally Mattison
Daniel Meier
Anne Poulin
Luke Clark, Parks and Recreation Representative
Stephen Elliot
Matthew Holtman

Those not present were:

Josh Hilbert, Chairperson
Skip Kunda, Planning Commission Representative

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Walker called the group to order.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 2014 MINUTES

On motion made and seconded, the minutes of the April 24, 2014 EAC meeting were unanimously approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Walker made the following announcements:

- There are several upcoming backyard composting and rain barrel workshops and an electronic waste recycling event hosted by the Pennsylvania Resources Council (PRC). For more information, visit www.prc.org.
- Brenda Gotanda recently announced that her law firm, Manko Gold Katcher & Fox, has received LEED Gold certification for its new office build-out in Bala Cynwyd. They made improvements around transportation (bike racks, shower facilities, & public transportation access), water efficiency (low-flow plumbing and an upgraded restroom) and energy efficiency.

Ms. Poulin noted that there will be a program entitled *Water- Smart Ideas to Beautify and Protect Your Landscape* hosted by the Radnor Conservancy at the Radnor Memorial Library on June 4 at 7:00pm.

Ms. Mattison noted that Pennsylvania Growing Greener Coalition has published a new guide to state funding opportunities for conservation efforts at www.pagrowinggreener.org.

WORKGROUP REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

Mr. Walker announced that he had reached out to Lauren Brubaker to continue last month's fishing line discussion. The EAC then continued its discussion about the tradeoffs associated with creating a new disposal system just for monofilament, particularly with respect to ongoing maintenance costs. It was suggested that the container that was proposed adds a lot of PVC and may be worse than the line itself. Some signage or educational effort is likely to be more effective and have less impact. Some EAC members favor communicating with the agency that issues fishing licenses. It was suggested that the EAC organize a stream cleanup once a year, maybe in the spring.

It was noted that it would be helpful to have some more information on which locations are most affected. Mr. Clark plans to reach out to Parks and Recreation staff to explore where cleanup efforts could best be focused. This could be an initiative under the Sustainable Parks action item, unless it involves private properties that are not Township parks.

A. Radnor Green Team

Mr. Walker and Mr. Hilbert met with Ms. Conn to talk about Green Team priorities. She encouraged continued active involvement and help from the EAC.

The EAC discussed assignment of members to the various Green Team priorities.

The library renovation project was discussed, and it was suggested that the EAC talk to staff at the middle school to see if they have any resources or ideas to share.

B. Sustainability

No updates were given.

C. Open Space

Ms. Poulin said that the Greeways and Open Space Committee continues to meet regularly. The next meeting is June 3. The committee will be presenting a draft plan that includes exciting ideas for connectivity to facilitate walking and riding through township. The committee will break the proposal into priorities with ballpark pricing. It should be finalized by the end of the summer. The hope is that this will lead to Township adoption of an official map, which is a very important planning tool. Then the committee would explore moving forward on the funding and pursuit of a high-priority project.

D. Audubon Radnor Bird Town

Ms. Poulin announced that the EAC received approval of a \$3000 Water Resource Education Network (WREN) grant to build a rain garden around the Township building planted with native species; the rain garden will filter runoff water and reduce flow to the stream and will provide bird habitat. Ms. Poulin will attend WREN training on July 10 and needs a partner to participate

in the training with her. The training will cover the WREN approach and protocol. She has also reached out to Audubon and Radnor Conservancy to see if they want to collaborate. Residents can register their backyard with Audubon as a backyard bird habitat at www.RadnorBirdtown.org. The website also provides lists of native plant sales in the area. The EAC has also agreed to partner with the Library to present a wild conservation film series. A kickoff is planned for June 14 at 1:00 with "Falcon Day".

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION/AWARENESS

No updates were given.

LIAISON REPORTS

Mr. Clark noted that the Wheels of Wayne took place at the end of April and was a great success. He also reported that Jeffrey Miller Catering plans to take over the Willows Mansion and will expand the atrium, refurbish the interior, provide needed maintenance and expand the venue's potential community uses. They will add a Wayne Art Center class and also hope to make it a farm-to-table venue. They will build a terraced Events Center in the back and additional bedrooms and stormwater management infrastructure, landscaping, and electrical upgrades, among other things. This represents about \$2 million in improvements. They are hoping to reduce expenses with the goal of realizing a yearly revenue gain of about \$100k by 2016.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Walker reported that there was a very successful tree giveaway on April 26 led by Radnor Conservancy and supported by Chanticleer. The Shreiner Tree Company sent 2 experts to help people learn how to plant & care for the trees. Cabrini College's arborist also attended. 125 native maples and oaks were given away.

Mr. Elliott reported that Township staff committed in a recent meeting to explore an RFP process for green power purchasing. He sent around a revised RFP prior to the EAC meeting and would like to hear comments back from the EAC members. The biggest question is how aggressively to push for a set amount of green power (0-100% green), with the understanding that the #1 driver will likely be cost, while renewability is a secondary priority.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on a motion made and seconded, the meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council was adjourned.

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Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Holtman