

draft EAC Meeting Minutes-July 22 2025
Tuesday, July 22, 2025 @ 7:00 PM

• Attendance:

EAC:

Ms. Gensemer, Ms. Garg, Mr. Aquilina, Mr. Meyers,, Mr. Cram, Mr. Lott, Ms. Hilyard, Ms Lincoln, Ms Goudie.

Absent: Mr. Putkoski

BOS: Jonn Callahan

Admin: Laurie Getz

Public: Karen Guererro

• Minutes

- o Upon Motion by Ms. Goudie and seconded by Mr. Cram and Passed, the Environmental Advisory Council unanimously APPROVED the minutes from the June meeting.

• Announcements

- o See Facebook [Schuylkill Township EAC | Facebook](#)
 - Ms. Gensemer states she made a post from Bee City about Monarch counts.
- o Events and Webinars
 - Spring/Fall Regional EAC Conference
 - Mr. Meyers states there have been no recent updates.
 - Environmental and Energy Advisory Board Meeting - Wednesday, July 23 2:30 – 4:00pm
 - Mr. Meyers reminds everyone that this is open to the public on fourth Wednesday of the month, quarterly, 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.,
 - Electrification Coalition Webinars
 - Mr. Meyers mentioned: Electrifying Cities: How Municipalities Are Leading the Way
 - o https://realpicturelive.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_qWBCU4zQQ_CadITXBGX_2A#/registration
- o Grant Opportunities
 - Funds available for Purple Martin Boxes through Bird Town/PA Game Commission
 - Ms. Hilyard provides an update and describes that the organization will provide the structure and signage and guidance for how to monitor. We would have to provide quik-crete, labor and some supplies. Ms. Hilyard will express that the EAC is interested and follow up.
 - Mr. Cram asks about equipment and storage. Ms. Hilyard will find out.
 - Ms. Getz confirms that this will require BOS approval.

• Discussion

• Reports/Updates for Ongoing Projects

- o Fall Tree Giveaway

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- Mr. Aquilina provides a summary of the current plan (shown below). Ms. Guerrero provides some input on the species. Mr. Aquilina suggests that perhaps the Red Oak becomes a fringe tree instead.
- There is some discussion about how payments will be made to the vendor. A sign-up process is mentioned. Mr. Cram suggests something that is deer resistant would be attractive, for example paw paw trees. Mr. Aquilina states that every tree comes with a tree tube which helps with deer resistance.
- It is decided to have the tree giveaway on November 1st from 10am to Noon.
- There is some discussion about the sign-up process and the preference for the sign-up genius. Ms. Getz said to email this and also the event should be in the newsletter.
- There is some discussion about delivery dates.
- Ms. Goudie notes that this is a good opportunity to promote the EAC and it's facebook page perhaps through a QR code.
- It is considered whether to tie in with a possible food drive.
- Current plan:
 - Prepare budget, species and quantities of trees, and sign up.
 - Ocototoraro Nursery: #2 pot trees
 - ~100 trees with tree tubes/stakes for budget (2500)
 - Species (4-5?)
 - Sweetbay Magnolia
 - Red Oak
 - Chinapin Oak
 - Black Gum
 - Persimmon

o Fall Educational Talk

- Rain Barrel Workshop
 - Ms. Goudie states that she reached out to Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy. She describes some grants and possible workshops as well as costs and memberships (\$1000 township). It would cost EAC \$200 and residents \$60. Ms. Hilyard describes her experience with the rain barrel program. There is some discussion about the types of barrels. Mr. Cram asks about protecting from mosquitoes and Ms. Hilyard describes the solution. It is decided to discuss in the future. Ms. Garg suggests adding a question to the sign-up genius.
 - Ms. Goudie states that the other topic is composting.

o Clean-up projects –

- Fall Cleanup on Pothouse Road.
- Mr. Cram clarifies whether Maria is still the contact and Ms. Getz states no and that there is not a new person yet.
- It is realized there is no date yet. Mr. Cram suggests that the location is likely to be Pothouse Rd. There is some discussion of scheduling and possibly doing October 18th or 19th. It is decided to set October 25th with the 26th as a rain date. Mr. Cram will reach out to the fire police. He notes that he submitted the paperwork for the previous clean-up.

o Township Building Renovation

- Mr. Callahan and Ms. Getz states that the next update will be in September. Ms. Getz states that they are working towards final construction documents.

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- o Clean Energy- JM
 - DEP Shared Energy Manager Program
 - Mr. Meyers states that he, Ms. Mitterer, and the team from Wilson Engineering had a virtual meeting on July 8th.
 - Topics included new building planning, fleet electrification, possible grants, but mostly focused on the Sustainable Energy Partnership program.
 - Sustainable Energy Partnership
 - Mr. Meyers states that there was extensive conversation about the Sustainable Energy Partnership program and the process to explore and commit to it.
 - Ms. Mitterer stated that the contract with Constellation Energy was up for renewal.
 - Mr. Meyers stated that a virtual meeting on July 10th was held to allow for questions to members of Chester County involved in the SEP.
 - Ms. Getz explained that the SEP agreement involves a 5-year contract commitment. This would need to be approved by the Board of Supervisors. If the EAC is recommending that the Township join this partnership, additional detail is needed prior to this being considered. Ms. Getz explained that at a minimum she would need to know what the benefits are to the Township of joining, what the total capital contribution is, what requirements are there on the Township as members of the partnership. Until additional information and clarity on the program is gathered it cannot be presented to the BOS for consideration.
- o Parks/Preserves
 - Redtail renewed by BOS JC
 - Mr. Callahan provides an explanation as to why Redtail was renewed and primarily it was because there was no alternative.
 - Mr. Callahan also describes how commissions and ordinances will be more standard and commissions won't communicate directly with vendors.
 - Mr. Callahan states that Redtail will provide a seasonal plan and there is a general summer plan but everyone states that they didn't receive it by email.
 - Mr. Callahan describes how the communication will work.
 - Mr. Callahan asks about questions and Mr. Cram describes how Redtail didn't adequately plan or execute the herbicide treatment. Ms. Getz asks about who and how the treatment plan was established and Mr. Cram described how Redtail didn't plan adequately.
 - Mr. Cram continues to describe the black swallowwort problem and how the seeds will spread.
 - There is extensive discussion about the black swallowwort and how it could be addressed.
 - Mr. Meyers describes that communication and consultation have been problems.
 - There is extensive discussion about how communication has worked with Redtail.
 - Mr. Callahan has stated that possible weekly updates from Red Tail would be possible. Mr. Aquilina suggests monthly would be fine.
 - There is a July-September priority list that will be distributed to the EAC.

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- Mr. Cram states that it's too late to do anything with the swallowort.
- Ms. Guerrero asks about some of the items on the seasonal plan.
- The seasonal plan is put on the large screen and the EAC reviews this item by item.
- The plan refers to a site map that should be distributed to the EAC.
- Mr. Cram explains that it's too late to spray Swallowort and there is no reason to spray mugwort at Pickering.
- Mr. Cram states that it's ok to pursue removing Teasel.
- Ms. Goudie suggests using the list of the seasonal plan as the monthly report from Redtail. She also states that Pickering item #2 needs more clarity. Ms. Goudie asks about having Greg from Redtail in August or September.
- Ms. Garg and Mr. Cram further discusses how to address Swallowort.
- There is discussion with Mr. Cram and Mr. Callahan about herbicide application vendors and procedures.
- Mr. Cram later states that one of the signs near the Y at Pickering is down and two are missing and wants to know if new signs need to be ordered. Mr. Cram clarifies that they are signs that say "Preserve Boundary" to prevent the Y from mowing.
- In summary, the BOS renewed the contract with Red Tail for one year. Red Tail will create 2 plans per year, one for Fall and one for Spring, and will come to an EAC meeting to discuss the plans. Progress will be assessed based on the goals of the plan.
- Pickering Preserve **EC**
 - Bird Boxes that were approved for purchase.
 - Mr. Cram states that there is approval for wood duck boxes and he will identify a vendor that is appropriate for the budget provided.
- Valley Park
 - Educational signs **AL**
 - Ms. Lincoln states that she submitted the redesigned signs.
 - It is decided the EAC will review them and vote on them at the next meeting.
- Treasurer's Report **MP**
 - Mr. Putkoski is absent but Mr. Aquilina states there are no updates.
- **Developments**
 - Pohlig/Reeves property – assessment of plants on the property?
 - No updates
- **New/Other Business**
 - Ms. Hilyard states that she heard back and that DCNR is unlikely for the Fall and is getting pushed to the Spring.
 - Next meeting August 26th, 7 PM

Estimated Meeting Adjournment: 9PM