

3/15/23 Buckingham EAC Meeting Minutes

Present: R. Foster (via Zoom), D. Robb, A. Strout, J. Walter (via Zoom), Maggie Rash (Supervisor Liaison)

Absent: D. Smith, S. Yerkes

Visitors: Lisa Briegel Braud, Matt Braud, Stephanie Weisser

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

New business

- **Minutes:** The February EAC meeting minutes were reviewed and discussed. Don Robb made a motion to approve, seconded by Jim Walter and the motion carried.

Old/ongoing business

- **Roundtable:** There was discussion regarding a planning meeting in June for the water quality and sustainable agriculture roundtable being organized for late in the year. We have a number of good roundtable candidates at this point, including some provided by Dr. Jackie Ricotta, head of Plant Sciences at Delaware Valley University. We also want to showcase our own members' expertise. Jim and Ruth could speak to water-quality issues, and former EAC members Rich Mator is a soils expert. Andrea shared that Heather Andrews gave a great presentation at the EAC Network Conference and is a good potential participant, either at the Water Quality roundtable or at subsequent event devoted to native plants. The committee is still trying to give shape to this event.
- **Residents' guide:** There was discussion of the need for an easy-to-understand guide to township and state rules and regulations (e.g., re landscaping practices). This project will need a champion to move forward
- **BCCD grant letters:** The township and the EAC both wrote letters to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation in support of a grant to create a consortium, to be led by the Bucks County Conservation District, that would oversee and coordinate conservation efforts in the Neshaminy Watershed
- **Neshaminy Greenway Trail:** Andrea mentioned that she had asked Richard Brahler, head of Transportation Planning for the County, to release the comments from the public-comment period late last year. The Planning Commission submitted trail designs in December
- **Single-use plastic survey update:** We are in the process of extracting residents' emails from our Buckingham News Blast database and the Equalizer program in the township building department. We will not send the survey initially to businesses. The survey will also be listed on the website with a link

- **Tree-grants, planting-outreach update:** Jim picked up 4800 (about 800 for Buckingham) tubes; trees should arrive in the next two weeks. The grant is through Ten Million Trees and was applied for through the Conservation District with the help of Karen Ogden. Andrea has reached out again to CB East re their interest in helping us plant but hasn't yet heard back
- **Energy Transition Plan (ETP)/Climate action plan:** Andrea is revising and updating
- **Township website:** Andrea has put together a draft for an EAC tab on the township website under Helpful Pages. It will have links for the public to find information on native plants, invasives that are prohibited, etc.
- **Native plant sale:** May 13th at Hansell Park Pavilion. Jim has selected the plants
- **Municipal business:** Habitat for Humanity is offering an opportunity to recycle TVs, printers, etc., at their Warminster outlet
- **Membership:** Laura Mein has submitted a letter of interest to the township to join the EAC
- **Strat plan:** The 2023 EAC strategic plan was reviewed
- **Communications & the township:** The Brauds had concerns regarding the township's communications with residents and asked why there is no Instagram. Ms. Braud said she signed up for the Buckingham Blasts and never received any information, but it was determined that she had not yet done so

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Rash (acting for D. Smith)