

10/18/23 Buckingham EAC Meeting Minutes

Present: D. Robb, A. Strout, L. Mein, J. Walter

Absent: R. Foster, D. Smith, S. Yerkes

Visitors: None

Meeting was called to order by Andrea Strout at 7 pm.

Tree-planting with CB East

28 CB East Students, including many from See Green, the environmental club, and NHS, planted 90 trees between frontage of Rt 202 and athletic fields of the park extension, from Quarry Rd and the property line of the commercial nursery. The students were led by Jim Walter, with Diane Smith, Andrea Strout and Don Robb assisting. Of the new trees, 6 replaced unsuccessful planting from the 2022 event. Andrea will send a report and photos of students in action and submit to the BC Herald.

Andrea proposed the placement of a sign on the park path to memorialize the high school students' efforts. Group voted to forward this proposal to the Board of Supervisors.

Reforest Buckingham Initiative

Don reported that a Boy Scout wrote to the HOA at INDIAN WALK, stating that Scouts' participation in tree planting projects must take place on public land. Don asks that the Reforest Buckingham campaign better define the buffers as a community initiative so that groups like the Scouts can get involved.

Jim reports 125 trees from the 10 Million Trees grant are being distributed to the 3 HOAs that responded to the EAC letter.

Laura reported on plan to distribute 90 trees from the 10 Million Tree grant to residents along Watson Creek. Participation responses are expected shortly from 4 residents new to the initiative.

Jim Walter reported that the tree planting for the "spray field hedgerow" requested by Dana Cozza is complete. Poison ivy trees were treated/removed from the fence line in September and the 23 VouchSafe Grant trees were installed, including stakes and cages. Leftover saplings from the Holicong Park student event will be planted here shortly.

Andrea verified that the "Fall Tips" were sent out to residents via the township notification system.

Reminder of upcoming task: Helpful page needs to be refreshed for 2024.

The Energy Transition Plan presentation to the Board of Supervisors has been tentatively scheduled for the Dec 20 work session. Neale Dougherty, director of Sustainability for Bucks, and Paula Kline, who heads the Clean Energy Strategic Planning (CESP) group, will co-present with Andrea.

Reminder that no EAC meeting is scheduled for December.

Vote passed to partner with Solebury Township to hold "E-waste recycling event" at Holicong Park under a Bucks County grant. Group to ask Supervisor-Liaison Maggie Rash to present to township for action.

9/20/23 meeting minutes were approved.

Vote passed to post the results of the Single-use Plastic Survey and send communication to merchants via USPS with a personal f/u (phone or in person). Andrea to follow-up with township. Don volunteered to research alternative options to plastic bags used for food items.

Don will participate in Webinar on single-use plastics and report back to the EAC.

Public Round Table Event Update and Plan Review

- Time is 1-3 pm for both sessions
- Planning meeting tentatively scheduled for December 7. Andrea to reach out to Maggie, Mary Jane Atkinson and Lori Wicen re plans
- Group agreed multiple "blasts" are needed to advertise the event via the township website, notification system and perhaps as an insert in water bills (as was done with the SUP survey). Andrea to make final tweaks to announcement materials and submit to township staff for action
- Suggestion that high school teachers/advisors be informed
- Don to coordinate physical layout planning with Lori and Mary Jane

Andrea suggested Rebecca Fink be invited to planning meeting(s) given that she had originally asked the EAC to explore the issue of run-off. Andrea to contact.

The feasibility of noise ordinances was discussed.

Andrea reminded members that January will be her last meeting as chair.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Mein and Andrea Strout
Acting for Diane Smith,
Vice Chair and Recording Secretary