

EAC Minutes
Tuesday, January 24, 2023 @ 7:00 PM

- Ms. Garg makes some preliminary remarks.
- **Approve November 2022 Summary**
November summary is approved.
- **Announcements**
 - Reminder that Spring/Summer newsletter content is due to me by Monday, February 6th
 - Mr Heisey indicates that he was going to write an article about the native plant list.
 - Ms Majewski says list will be on the website.
 - Mr. Heisey will do the article and send to Twp Mgr Getz.
 - Mr. Heisey confirms that the Deer-resistant Plants List would also be available to see on the website as a separate list.
 - Next NCC-EAC Jan 30th 7pm via Zoom
 - Mr. Meyers and Ms. Guerro indicate they will probably attend.
 - The EAC 2022 summary list will be used as a list of talking points.
 - DCNR Lawn Conversion Program
 - Ms. Hilyard provides a summary about the program that she signed up for.
 - The minimum has been reduced from ½ acre to ¼ acre.
 - Free to the homeowner.
 - The program had been delayed during covid but now has more funding and staff.
 - There is discussion about the process, requirements, waiting list, and how the program could be publicized to the township.
 - Ms. Hilyard will explore whether municipalities can participate.
 - Ms. Majewski explains that the BOS is having a workshop about having events. She provides the history of doing 4 events per year. Ms. Majewski suggests the contact from DCNR could be a possible event. There is some further discussion about possible dates for a presentation. Various future topics are suggested as well as speakers including Doug Tallamy, Kelly Stitch, Mike McGrath, and others.
 - It's agreed that March is too soon to schedule someone.
 - See Facebook [Schuylkill Township EAC | Facebook](#)
 - Ms. Gensemer indicates that she posted something related to native plants and landscapes that is at the Phoenixville library.
 - Mr. Heisey states that he was contacted by the North Coventry EAC about stream naming and he and Mr. Kunz will share with them what was done here.
- **Public Participation**
 - None
- **General EAC 2023**
 - Approved 2023 EAC calendar dates
 - January 24th, February 28th, March 28th, April 25th, May 23rd, June 27th, July 25th, August 22nd, September 26th, October 24th, November 28th
 - The dates are reviewed and presumed to be fine.
 - 2023 positions for BOS approved
 - Chair (MG), Vice-Chair (KH), Secretary (JM) and Treasurer (TH)
 - Amanda Gensemer- BOS approved 3 Year Term to expire December 2025
 - It's suggested that we continue to recruit new members.
 - Review application for Alternate: C. Aquilina

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- The process to bring on an EAC alternate is discussed. It is generally agreed to invite Mr. Aquilina to the next meeting.
- o General communications path
 - Via meetings and or MG or LG only (each other in copy)
 - Ms. Garg explains that emails with township items, Ms. Garg or Ms. Getz should be copied to comply with sunshine principles.
- **Reports/Updates for Ongoing Projects**
 - o Bee City USA – KH
 - Declaration BOS approved
 - Ms. Garg indicates that we are approved and reviews the agreement.
 - o Bird Town KH
 - [Home - Bird Town Pennsylvania \(birdtownpa.org\)](http://birdtownpa.org)
 - Signs updates/photos
 - Annual report requirements
 - Declaration BOS approved
 - Ms. Garg briefly reviews the agreement.
 - Ms. Hilyard indicates that she will notify Bird Town that the resolution has passed.
 - There is some discussion about Schuylkill's time in Bird Town which turns out to be since 2011.
 - Ms. Hilyard will submit the 2022 EAC summary.
 - o Clean-up projects - EC
 - Spring dates/opportunities
 - Adopt-a-highway Valley Park Road
 - Mr. Cram inquires about possible locations.
 - Ms. Majewski suggests Pothouse Rd.
 - Mr. Cram can coordinate but may not participate.
 - Dates in April are suggested around Earth Day.
 - There is some additional discussion about logistics and planning.
 - Mr. Cram will talk to Chris.
 - When a date is settled, it should be posted on Facebook.
 - Mr. Cram indicates that someone will need to pick up clean up supplies.
 - Park cleanup day- all three parks
 - a. Admin- trash from recycling containers
 - b. PP- trash at parking lot, trash in wetlands (including AJ Blosenski bin)
 - c. VP- trash along Valley Park Rd. Removal of hay blanket over plants or not embedded in soilThere is some discussion about having a clean-up day.
 - Liter cameras discussion (AG & EC)
 - This topic is briefly discussed but will be reviewed in future meetings.
 - o Clean Energy: JM
 - VPP Task Force / Clean Energy Future
 - Mr. Meyers states that the most recent meeting was January 12th.
 - discussion of scope document
 - discussion of governance
 - Schuylkill Township Energy Planning
 - o Facebook AG
 - [Schuylkill Township EAC | Facebook](#)
 - no updates as of yet
 - o Parks/Preserves

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- Native plants list updates
 - Will be added to the updated Township website (update in process)
- Pickering Preserve
 - Bluebird Boxes budget– **EC**
 - o Nov EAC approved \$175. Need to update this to ~\$250 for new boxes and posts
 - Mr. Meyers makes motion to approve \$250 and funds for posts. Mr. Heisey seconds. EAC approves.
 - Little Free Library **EC**
 - Mow plan updates – **EC/JM**
 - o the Mow Plan is displayed and Mr. Cram explains it.
 - o Ms. Majewski asks about some of the paths.
 - o Ms. Majewski and Mr. Cram discuss possible path configurations.
 - o There is extensive discussion and it is decided that the bluebird boxes will be moved and there will be some changes to the paths.
 - o Mr. Meyers will make the edits and submit for review.
 - Redtail
 - o Pulled Mugwort and invasive ground-layer vines
 - o Dug out Multiflora Rose in lower meadow
 - o Ms. Garg and Ms. Guerrero decide to discuss this in February.
- Valley Park **KG**
 - Redtail
 - o Pulled Japanese Stilt Grass
 - o Dug out Multiflora Rose and Japanese Barberry
 - o Pulled invasive ground-layer vines
 - Seed sowing- When? Help needed?
 - Meadow Mow plan
 - o It is decided that it will be mowed in end of November except Spring this year and then every November.
- Tree Subcommittee **KG**
 - Free Tree Planting (Keystone 10M Program) event. Tentative dates 4/22 or 4/23
 - Tree Selection for planting at township admin building and parks
 - o this will be discussed at next meeting
- o Trails Committee- **EC**
 - no updates
- o Treasurer's Report
 - Mr. Heisey provides an update and states that the Environmental Projects budget was almost completely spent for the year 2022.
- **Developments**
 - o University of Valley Forge – **AG**
 - no updates
 - o Reeves/Pohlig By-Right Development plan- **SK/KH**
 - See above under public presentations
 - o Wawa
 - Ms. Majewski states that this is going to the zoning hearing board.
 - There will be a meeting at Schuylkill elementary.

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- **New/Other Business**
 - o Next meeting February 28, 7 PM

Estimated Meeting Adjournment: 9PM