

EAC Minutes
Tuesday, April 25, 2023 @ 7:00 PM

- **Present**
 - **EAC:** Ms Garg, Mr. Kunz, Ms. Hilyard, Ms. Guererro, Mr. Meyers, Ms. Gensemer, Mr. Heisey, Mr. Cram, Mr. Aquilina
 - **Public:** Todd Pohlig, Greg Gagliano
 - **BOS:** Susan Guerette , Martha Majewski
 - **Mgmt:** (none)

- **Approve March 2023 Summary**
 - Ms Gensemer makes motion Ms Hilyard seconds
 - minutes are approved

- **Announcements**
 - See Facebook [Schuylkill Township EAC | Facebook](#)

- **Public Participation**
 - None

- **General EAC 2023**
 - It is noted that the BOS voted to approve Charles Aquilina as EAC Alternate
 - Mr. Aquilina is congratulated.

- **Reports/Updates for Ongoing Projects**
 - Bee City USA – **KH**
 - Ms. Hilyard has no updates
 - Bird Town **KH**
 - Ms. Hilyard notes that signs were placed on Whitehorse
 - There is some discussion about Charlestown and the need for permits on state roads.
 - Ms. Hilyard indicates that there are 6 total signs with one at Pickering and one at Valley Park.
 - Ms. Garg says there is one at Clothier Springs
 - There is discussion around who has the photo that was taken last month of the Bird Town rep with EAC members.
 - EAC will find locations for the remaining signs to be placed.
 - Clean-up projects - **EC**
 - Mr. Cram says the April 22nd event was successful.
 - There was a substantial amount of trash collected.
 - The new vests were good and the grabbers were helpful.
 - Litter cameras discussion (**AG & EC**)
 - Ms Gensemer indicates this is on hold since the truck that would be used is in the shop.
 - Mr. Cram suggests cameras would be helpful.
 - There is discussion around possibly adding cameras to parks to help with various issues.
 - Ms. Gensemer indicates she will set up a meeting with Ms. Getz and the police chief.
 - Clean Energy: **JM**

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- VPP Task Force / Clean Energy Future
 - Met 2nd Thursday of Month, April 13th
 - Mr. Meyers confirms there is a grant extension
 - Meetings have been had and will be had to review deliverables and expectations
 - The timeline for the end of the grant is under review which includes
 - township plans and community plans
 - Task Force Review & Finalization in May
 - Presentations in June where Townships are to “accept” the plans.
 - Members met Thursday 4/20
 - Another meeting is planned May 2
- Schuylkill Township Energy Planning
 - Mr. Meyers says the four townships should review and accept overall plans in May/June
 - Mr. Meyers reports that he and Ms. Gensemer met with John from All Phase Electric for review EV charger installation feasibility on 4/20 11am with All Phase Electric
 - received proposal this morning which was forwarded to Tina and Laurie
 - Mr Meyers says there are grants that can be explored
 - Some discussion ensues about the types of chargers, costs, and placement.
- Ms. Majewski says there will be a workshop to discuss a vehicle purchase policy on either the 18th of May or 22 of June (third Thursday of the month)
- DCNR Lawn conservation program
 - Discussion about when to meet with representative and Earl at Pickering Preserve and or Township building.
 - Ms. Hilyard said some dates were proposed for a walkthrough but we haven’t responded yet.
 - May 12th and June 9th are available dates that we will offer
- Facebook **AG**
 - [Schuylkill Township EAC | Facebook](#)
- Parks/Preserves
 - Pickering Preserve
 - Mow plan updates – **EC/JM**
 - 8:05 Mr. Cram said Nick mowed some of the trails.
 - Mr. Cram says he still wants to meet with Nick
 - Mr. Cram says he mowed mostly following the plan
 - Mr. Cram will arrange a meeting with Nick
 - Mr. Gagliano asks about the purpose of the late Spring mowing
 - Mr. Cram notes that the mowing was a little early this year but it generally was what we wanted.
 - Redtail
 - 8:07 Removal of Swallow-wort
 - Mr. Gagliano says there hasn’t been a major impact.
 - Mr. Cram says he isn’t sure when they will be evident but he knows where they are.

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- Mr. Cram indicates that this should be a top priority
 - there is additional discussion around controlling Swallow-wort
 - there is discussion around thistles
 - 8:17 there is discussion around tree of heaven
 - o 8:20 Ms. Garg summarizes the main action points and areas to focus on including Swallow-wort, thistles, and other invasives.
 - o Mr. Gagliano will have one of his crew meet with Mr. Cram to weed wack.
 - o 8:27 Mr. Gagliano cites the priority for the treating at Valley Park.
 - there is some discussion of herbicide use and how it is designated
 - Valley Park **KG**
 - Approval Redtail Priority Projects at VP
 - o 8:30 Removal of Garlic Mustard within 8ft of paved paths
 - Mr. Gagliano speaks extensively about Garlic Mustard and Ms. Guerrero seeks clarification on sites on map of Valley Park and calls attention to specific locations.
 - o 8:41 there is an extended exchange between Mr. Gagliano and Ms. Guerrero about locations of various plants and how to address them.
 - o Spot spray Canada thistle in the meadow area
 - o Cut back vines on sycamore and maple at creek curve
 - o Cut back vines on native and select nonnative trees (apple and cherry) along Valley Park Rd paved path.
 - There is discussion around who will cut the vines.
 - Overall, priorities for Red Tail are The priority projects are:
 - o Removal of garlic mustard within 10 ft of paved paths at southern Site 4, at eastern Site 1 around path loop and dead ash tree, and at Site 3 at the small pollinator garden.
 - o At project Site 3, removal all invasives 2 ft east of 3 crabapples to 2 ft west of large crabapple and damaged Eastern red cedar. This includes digging out multiflora rose.
 - o Greg requests to continue working in his woods in northern Site 4.
 - Discussion Redtail Contract Renewal: (not discussed)
 - Planted river birch and arrowwood viburnum at Valley Park. Sweetgum plantings will occur soon. These are the 1-2 ft Keystone 10M Program trees.
- o Tree Subcommittee **KG**
 - 8:45pm
 - Ms. Guerrero suggests that high school seniors could volunteer next year.
 - 8:49 Mr. Guerrero provides some additional updates on tree health
 - Approval Colonial Gardens Tree Installation
 - 3 redbuds at Valley Park at pink flag markers close to pond.
 - 9 trees at Pickering Preserve. The trees should be planted at least 25ft away from any electrical lines/telephone wires and at a minimum of 30 ft between each planted tree. 3 American basswood, 3 shagbark hickory, 3 persimmon trees.
 - o There is discussion around placement of the trees. Mr. Cram and Ms Guererro will meet with Nick and establish locations.

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- Possibility of another Keystone 10M tree giveaway program being planned for week of May 17 to coincide with PA Native Species Day, May 18
 - Mr. Meyers will call Colonial Gardens to finalize tree list and put an installation date on the calendar.
- o Treasurer's Report- **TH**
- 7:39pm Mr. Heisey indicates we spent \$602 but we are unclear what that was for.
 - a detailed expense report will be requested
- **Developments**
- o University of Valley Forge – **AG**
 - no news on this
 - o Reeves/Pohlig By-Right Development plan- **SK**
 - 7:40m Review updated EIA from Pohlig
 - Mr. Kunz summarizes the new EIA.
 - a. He indicates that some matters were addressed and others were not
 - b. He has not finalized his review so no vote will take place tonight.
 - c. Topics Mr. Kunz speaks about include:
 - i. noteworthy tree counts; ordinance distinction about trees
 - ii. number of trees to be removed and to be planted
 - iii. other questions about impact to trees and thus wildlife
 - iv. preference to obtain updated surveys on turtles
 - v. WhiteHorse Run stream and which streams are considered high quality
 - vi. Riparian buffer; EIA puts faith in it
 - vii. Wetlands delineation; JD process hasn't been completed yet
 - d. Mr. Kunz expects to finish his draft review before the next meeting.
 - e. 7:48pm Mr. Gagliano asks Mr. Kunz questions about the proposed project.
 - f. Ms. Garg asks about tree designations. Mr. Kunz mentions a 2018 assessment and provides some clarifications.
 - g. Mr. Pohlig cites the in-person visit in 2018 and says they extrapolated the numbers for today based on the visit.
 - h. There is some additional discussion around trees and other items and how greater clarification is needed.
 - i. 7:53 Mr. Heisey asks about the proposed tree removal and replacement plans and inquires about how to increase tree replacement. Mr. Kunz speaks additionally about restrictions on tree removal and what is included in the plan.
 - i. Mr. Pohlig interjects that specifics and documents will be in the final plan.
 - ii. 7:58pm Mr. Kunz and Mr. Pohlig debates some specifics about preliminary vs final plan specifics.
 - iii. there is discussion about permits
 - iv. Ms. Garg asks about monumenting the 150 ft riparian buffer

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- v. Mr. Pohlig says they need to do it for Aqua
- vi. there is some additional discussion about preserving this

- o Wawa

- no news; no discussion

- **New/Other Business**

- o Next meeting May 23, 7 PM

Meeting Adjournment: 9:04 PM