

**EASTTOWN TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, May 27, 2021

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Cara Rash. Environmental Advisory Council members in attendance were Kathryn Goddard Doms, Gary Ellis, Heather Hill, Cara Rash, and Radha Pyati. Also attending were Michael Wacey, Supervisor Liaison; Eugene Briggs, AICP, CZO, Township Manager; and Clara Steege.

Consideration of April 22, 2021 regular meeting minutes.

The April 22 minutes received two friendly amendments, which were approved 5-0 with a motion and a second. The amended minutes were approved 5-0 with a motion and second.

Discuss Educational Workshops.

Councilmember Doms began the discussion of a seminar series, for assembly into an EAC recommendation to the Easttown Twp Board of Supervisors. The following were proposed and approved 5-0 with a motion and a second by the EAC as its recommendation to the BOS.

- 1) A curbside composting seminar by Mother Compost, a service presented by Councilmember Hill, in late June 2021.
- 2) an introduction to rain gardens, on Saturday, August 21, 2021, at Trinity Presbyterian Church, Berwyn, presented by Pam Koch, Earth Care Team Leader for the church. The church has approved the request.
- 3) an introduction to the Darby Creek Headwaters Community Monitoring Program, presented by Lauren McGrath of Willistown Trust in October 2021.

Locations for seminars #1 and #3 above were discussed. The Easttown Library has not yet approved use of its large meeting room, but the outdoor courtyard area may be available and they have chairs. Hilltop House has a sheltered back porch that includes seating and extension cords; Gene Briggs will check date availability. The Upper Main Line YMCA was also considered, particularly because there is a Darby Creek headwaters monitoring project underway there. Councilmember Doms will follow up with them.

Review Update an 1993 Recreation, Open Space and Environmental Resources Plan – Environmental Conditions Mapping Considerations.

Councilmember Ellis reviewed maps of Easttown Twp that noted land use, natural resources, and aerial views. He noted that the land use maps denoting residential lots did not capture the quantity of natural resources, especially wood lots and wooded areas, present in the Twp. He volunteered to undertake a mapping project to capture vegetation patterns at the woodlot and hedgerow level. He and Mr. Briggs will work together and inquire if the Chester County Planning Commission has documents that can help. This is meant to be part of a larger process to update the 1993 open space plan, and Mr. Briggs noted that there are grant programs that can fund working with a professional later in the process. Chairperson Rash asked each Councilmember their sentiment, and all agreed that Councilmember Ellis should proceed with this project.

Consideration of the 2021 Communication Plan.

Councilmember Pyati reviewed a draft communication plan for the EAC that involves regular stories in In Community magazine and short social media posts approximately every 2-4 weeks. Mr. Briggs confirmed

that it is acceptable to repeat material from In Community onto the Twp's website and social media accounts. The EAC's communication items will include upcoming events, informational items, and a call for volunteers, who may respond to easttown@easttown.org. Chairperson Rash and Councilmember Pyati will work on preparing a lineup of communication items to be released every 2-4 weeks.

Liaison Reports – Parks and Recreation Board.

Councilmember Doms, the EAC's liaison to the board, reported on upcoming park improvements and the July 4 event. The EAC expressed interest in having a table at the July 4 event, and Chairperson Rash and Councilmember Doms will follow up with the Parks and Rec Board.

Liaison Reports – Planning Commission.

Councilmember Ellis, the EAC's liaison to the PC, reported that the PC discussed the Berwyn Square project.

Trex Recycling Update.

Chairperson Rash reported that the Trex bins are being checked twice weekly, and so far 57 pounds have been collected. Upon collecting 500 pounds of plastic, Trex will make a bench; the EAC expressed interest, and Chairperson Rash will follow up.

Single-use Plastic Ordinance Consideration/Sustainable Storefronts Initiative.

This item was tabled 5-0 with a motion and a second.

Monarch Butterflies Initiative.

Councilmember Hill described a monarch butterfly initiative and will follow up on how a workshop might be presented.

Addition of EAC Goals to Township Website.

The EAC agreed to post the goals approved in the March 2021 meeting.

Public Comment

Supervisor Wacey suggested that the EAC explore learning more about rooftop gardens, citing an example at a Whole Foods Market in Massachusetts.

Announcement

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Thursday, June 24, 2021, at 7:00 pm.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Radha Pyati
Secretary, Easttown EAC