

EASTTOWN TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, July 28, 2022

Chairperson Cara Rash called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM. Additional Council members attending were Gary Ellis and Heather Hill. Also present were Supervisor Michael Wacey, Eugene Briggs, Township Manager, and Marc Heppe, (DH2Design and former supervisor). Eileen O'Malley Spangler (59 Lakeside Avenue) participated via videoconference link.

Consideration of Draft May 26th, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Minutes from the May 26th meeting were approved unanimously.

Single Use Plastic Bag Ban Implementation

The Board of Supervisors has enacted the Single Use Plastic Bag Ban ordinance. Accordingly, ideas for an ordinance implementation plan were discussed.

Coordinating signage with Tredyffrin Township does not seem feasible, since that Township's draft ordinance differs substantially from Easttown's.

Township Manager Briggs will set up an informational website, which will include the ordinance and a frequently asked questions component.

Cara Rash will develop a store-front flyer for store windows, to be followed by a hand-out sheet for businesses to use with customers.

An Easttown Tote Bag will be made available, primarily funded by a Chester County Solid Waste Authority grant. Marc Heppe will oversee the production process, on an at-cost basis.

Environmental Advisory Council members present all agreed upon Cara Rash and Heather Hill working together as a sub-committee to produce final design/specifications, sponsorship arrangements, and authorize production for an Easttown tote- bag, as funded under the now approved Chester County Solid Waste Authority grant. Intent is to have the bag ready for distribution at the annual Berwyn Fire Company Halloween Party. At present, intent is for the bag to be of 10 ounces organic cotton construction, hunter green colored, with gold print for Easttown and logo designation, sponsors (if any) would be listed on the reverse side, in white print.

The EAC hopes to work with the Berwyn Business Association, especially through Stacy Ballard, in order to solicit sponsorships and build implementation support.

Eileen O'Malley Spangler participated via videoconference connection and offered suggestions on the implementation roll-out process. She emphasized terse simplicity for any flyers to be distributed. She also favored collaboration with the Berwyn Business Association (with respect to the tote bags) and asked whether we have reached out to other municipalities in order to identify best practices for implementation.

Eugene Briggs mentioned that we need to keep track of expenditures made from the Solid Waste Authority grant. Easttown's staff should handle the records administration since the Township is the grant recipient

Trex Bench:

The Trex bench will be installed at Hilltop Park and will not be anchored. Production turn-around time is about eight weeks. The plastic bags collection operation at the library needs maintenance volunteers.

Compost Swap Program

Heather Hill reported that she has been communicating with a potential composting business partner, Colleen Falicki, with "Back to Earth". That organization is willing to administer a composting program outside the Easttown Library. Eugene Briggs noted that the Board of Supervisors would need to approve any such arrangement, insofar as the Library Trustees' authority extends only to the building's interior.

"Back to Earth" also could run a post-Halloween pumpkin collection program.

Seed Saving Program

Easttown Library is available and ready to run a "seed swap" program and would like to hold an introductory workshop event for initial rollout purposes.

Liaison Reports- Key items for EAC, (see group specific minutes for complete descriptions)

Via written communication, Kate Doms reported on the June 6th Board of Supervisors meeting and the June 21st Parks and Recreation Commission meetings. Cara Rash reported on the July 18th Board of Supervisors meeting. Gary Ellis reported on the July 7th Planning Commission meeting. Among those, key EAC relevant items were:

The Board of Supervisors has established a storm water management task force.

The Open Space Plan task force has been appointed and will hold its first meeting August 17th.

Easttown's Stormwater Ordinance needs updating.

Other Business

Watershed Partnership: Via written report, Kate Doms stated that most recent "Watershed Partnership" meeting took place on June 28th. A key topic was upstream/downstream relations.

"Trick or Trash" boxes can be available for collecting Halloween candy wrappers. Consensus was that such boxes should be placed at school sites.

The EAC newsletter and the next pending Township newsletter both will be needing article submissions. We need to develop some ideas and move toward having a catalog of such articles available.

Rain Gardens: Heather Hill mentioned that a Township resident has expressed interest in helping to run a rain-garden installation program.

EAC Network Affiliation: All members present concurred that we are not aware of any compelling reason for recommending that the Board of Supervisors allocate funds for contributing to Pennsylvania's EAC Network Affiliates Program,

Street Trees Proposed Program: Supervisor Michael Wacey mentioned that the Township Board of Supervisors is interested in initiating a Township program for planting native street trees, wherein Easttown would procure and plant the trees in exchange for the tree receiving property owners' agreement to accept maintenance responsibility for several, perhaps five, years. He has requested that the EAC develop some more specific ideas about this. Gary Ellis agreed to develop some initial ideas. Bill Hartman, a Township resident, previously had suggested some broadly similar ideas to the EAC. Gary will contact Bill.

Public Comment.

There was no public comment.

Announcement.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is Thursday, August 25, 2022, at 7:00 pm.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Gary Ellis
Substitute Secretary, Easttown EAC