

SWARTHMORE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
January 27, 2015

In Attendance: Susan Kelly, Chair; Members: Doug Hasbrouck, Fintan McHugh, Jon Pender, Nancy English; Lauren McKinney, representative of Borough Council. A quorum was present.

Minutes for the October 28 and November 25, 2015 meetings were approved by a quorum of members.

OLD BUSINESS:

Bamboo Ordinance

Fintan McHugh and Tracy Bouvette made changes to the proposed bamboo ordinance in line with comments from the public forum. EAC members in attendance approved the final Draft version for sending on to the Borough Council Environment Committee. When, and if, the Draft is approved by the Environment Committee, they will send it on to the entire Borough Council for discussion. Depending on their discussions, it may come back to the EAC for further revisions. If not, the Borough will publicize the new ordinance. At that point, the EAC may attempt further efforts to educate the public about bamboo and the need to control it.

Next steps: Lauren McKinney will send the final Draft version of the ordinance to the Environment Committee of Borough Council. It was noted that without changing the ordinance, Borough Council could give it an effective date that would give bamboo owners a significant amount of lead time to plan for compliance.

Little Crum Creek Park

The schedule of park work days will start in late March or early April depending on the weather. Susan will inform the usual volunteer organizations and will put advance information on Nexdoor Swarthmore.

Susan will assess the state of the park with Cuzzy Rowles to determine the need for tree removal and other maintenance that is beyond the ability of the usual volunteers. Two old fireplaces in the park are crumbling and need to be demolished. Susan and Cuzzy will determine whether the borough maintenance crew can demolish the fireplaces and dispose of the demolition waste.

There will be a CRC stream cleanup day on April 25 with sign up online as in previous years. Little Crum Creek Park will be one of the cleanup location options. Doug Hasbrouck has volunteered with the CRC to head up the April 25th Cleanup Day but will be unable to attend. Susan will follow-up on other organizational details, working with Doug.

Open Space Plan

Participants from all four involved communities have been selected as the Study Group that will meet with Natural Lands Trust March 19 to discuss next steps. The Group is also comprised of a member of the college staff and the school district.

Growing Greener Planning Grant

The Borough of Swarthmore has received a planning grant of \$79,109 for stream and wetland restoration on Swarthmore Swim Club property as well as neighboring property belonging to PECO, Springfield, and residents along Riverview Road adjoining the Swim Club property. The EAC worked with the Borough in writing the grant and submitting it through the Borough.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lauren McKinney suggested that the EAC consider looking into colony collapse disorder and whether there should be any action in Swarthmore to protect honey bees.

Lauren McKinney has been invited to participate in a Charrette at Swarthmore College February 11 and 12. The charrette is a method to sort through sustainability ideas to select the ideas to take forward.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Next Swarthmore EAC meeting – February 24, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in Borough Hall Community Room.

Next Multi-Municipal EAC meeting tentatively scheduled for March 24, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in Borough Hall Community Room

Minutes submitted by Nancy English