

Swarthmore Environmental Advisory Council
MEETING MINUTES
February 24, 2015

In Attendance: Susan Kelly, Chair; Members: Nancy English, Thurman Brendlinger, Douglas Hasbrouck, Tracy Bouvette; Associate Member: Phil Coleman; Lauren McKinney, representative of Borough Council.

Called to Order – 7:35

Minutes for the January 27, 2015 meeting were approved as submitted.

Old Business:

Growing Green Grant:

After a few lame jokes about engineers, EAC discussed the grant and the nature of the project. Project funding is currently only for planning and will not presume any specific design or construction actions beyond the expectation that the concrete channel will be abandoned and that the planning effort will follow some of the guidance offered by previous studies conducted in collaboration with the Borough and the College, which was previously funded by the State. The Borough will need to get stakeholder input including the Town of Springfield, PECO and of course the Swim Club Board and membership during the project about options and solutions to improve the stream ecology and restore the local habitat and water course.

In-kind match by the Borough will include Borough staff, EAC members, and Swim Club Board.

AFewSteps:

Phil reported on AFewSteps, which continues to conduct its sustainability coaching and will be hiring a summer intern to support its programs. The organization continues to look for places of worship to engage in sustainability and energy efficiency planning to help expand the reach of current programs.

New Business:

Little Crum Creek Park:

Doug presented an idea to place signage for entrance to the Borough at the corner of Little Crum Creek Park. The signage is still in the concept stage, and will potentially move forward in association with funding request to the Centennial Foundation. Will need to check on Borough's new sign ordinance to make certain that it is in keeping with requirements set forth by Borough.

Sue also indicated that the Borough and the private property owners at the corner of Yale and Swarthmore Ave may be looking to work out an agreement related to the management of the area along the shared property line. This location contains some invasive bamboo that requires some attention and may be coordinated with the private property owners. The owners (Kandestin) have written a letter to the EAC which Borough Councilman David Grove has received for consideration.

Announcements:

Swarthmore College Charrette:

Lauren attended the College's charrette associated with sustainability planning and implementation at which a number of impressive speakers from across the US attended along with other Borough members (Phil and Jane Billings), as well as students, facility, staff and other Borough invitees. The charrette helped to move forward collaborations related to green buildings, community redevelopment and facility expansion. Laura Cacho is the College's newly hired sustainability coordinator and she will be involved in taking the results of the charrette and moving forward with sustainability implementation.

Upcoming Events:

- CORPOS Meeting March 19th (Task Force to meet with members of the NLT and Anne Poole) at the NP Township Building.
- Swarthmore EAC meeting March 24th, 7:30 pm Community Room (Joint Meeting with MMEAC)

Adjourned 9:00

Minutes submitted by Tracy Bouvette