



Warrington Township
Environmental Advisory Council
Minutes of the Meeting
February 5, 2020

- 1) Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance:** Fred Suffian, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. Present were, Ivy Ross, Vice-Chairman; Todd Baratz, Secretary; Barbara Brown, Member; Amy Crasto, Member; Nick Weremeychik, Member; Adele Weremeychik, Member; Vinobha Pannerselvam, Member; Lynn Laurelli, Member; Mike Diorka, Parks and Recreation Liaison; Ruth Schemm, Board of Supervisors; Dorothy D'Angelo and Shawn Kirby, members of the public.

Mr. Suffian led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

- 2) Public Comment** – Dr. Diorka introduced himself to the committee and explained that he is the Park and Recreation Board's liaison and will be attending the WEAC meetings. He discussed some of his background and his interests.
- 3) Approval of Minutes** – On motion by Mr. Baratz and seconded by Mr. Weremeychik, the minutes of the December 4, 2019 meeting were approved. All were in favor.
- 4) Business:**

a. Election of Officers-

- Chairman- Mr. Baratz nominated Mr. Suffian to be Chairman of the WEAC. Ms. Laurelli seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- Vice-Chairman- Ms. Brown nominated Ms. Ross to be Vice-Chairman of the WEAC. Ms. Weremeychik seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- Secretary- Mr. Weremeychik nominated Mr. Baratz to be Secretary of the WEAC. Ms. Ross seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- Project Manager- Ms. Ross explained that Ms. Brown has been working to coordinate all of our projects. Ms. Ross would like to add the title of Project Manager and nominate Ms. Brown. Ms. Laurelli seconded the motion. All were in favor.

- b. Single Use Plastic Bags-** Mr. Pannerselvam and Mr. Xu are working together to come up with a local plan. They have contacted two students from Central Bucks South's Environmental Club to help with an outreach plan. Mr. Shawn Kirby is one of the students who would like to help with the campaign and attended the meeting to hear Mr. Pannerselvam present his ideas to the WEAC.

Mr. Pannerselvam gave a power point presentation, using work done in Lambertville, New Jersey by their EAC, as an example. He would like to take a four step approach.

1. Public Outreach- months 1-6
2. Business Outreach- months 6-12
3. Door to Door Campaign- months 12-24
4. Be the Change Outreach

- c. 50 Year Anniversary of Earth Day-** Ms. Ross explained that Valley Square will provide tables, chairs and tents.

Ms. Ross asked that each member find a group that will participate in the event. The following are some vendors secured to date:

- Ms. Ross- Penn State Extension for Spotted Lantern Fly
- Mr. Pannerselvam- Bucks County Audubon
- Ms. Laurelli- Bucks County Conservation District and Enviroscope

Some ideas for booths include:

- Ms. Crasto- A booth with vegetarian cooking and recipes and raffle baskets.
- Ms. Brown- A pollinator table to give out information and sell "starter packs" with 6 small pollinator plants.
- Mr. Suffian- A table with homemade natural products, with directions on how to make each product.

Motions were made by Mr. Suffian and seconded by Mr. Baratz to purchase items for the event. They are as follows-

- \$250.00 for plugs
- \$250.00 for decals
- \$100.00 for miscellaneous

Everyone was in favor.

- d. Day of Community Service-** Ms. Ross reported that she has sent out 275 letters asking for donations for our Day of Community Service on April 18, 2020. Our main project will be planting the Pickertown and Folly Roads basin. We will also maintain the Rain Garden and Butterfly Garden. We will also be planting grasses

and shrubs at the sign at the entrance to Lower Nike and the sign at IPW. A small amount of annuals will also be planted. If we have enough volunteers, we can construct blue bird and bat houses.

Ms. Brown will be planting plugs down at Lower Nike. She made a motion to spend up to \$250 for plugs to plant at the cluster planting project and the existing waystation. Ms. Laurelli seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Mr. Suffian made a motion that we spend up to \$1000 on miscellaneous items for Community Day. These items will include mulch and stakes for basins.

- e. **No Mow at Bradford Dam-** Ms. Brown has been working with a Meadow Management Committee led by Mr. Tom Price and Mr. Kevin Spencer to discuss the possibility of reducing and scheduling specific mowing at certain times of the year at the Bradford Dam and some of the other County properties. This would help to increase habitat for grassland birds as well as insects and other wildlife. Mr. Pannerselvam is also involved with this committee. He and Ms. Brown will be attending meetings and will keep the WEAC informed. There will be a Meadow Management Workshop on February 20, 2020. Ms. Brown will forward the information onto the members.

- f. **Pickertown and Folly Road Basin-** Ms. Ross explained that Public Works used the plan developed by CKS Engineers for the removal of the existing concrete flow channel. The entire flow channel, coming off of Pickertown Road was removed. Three sections of the other flow channel were removed and replaced with filter fabric and R-4 stone. Four mounds about one foot high were placed on either side of the flow channel for shrub planting mounds. Wetland meadow mix and rye grass were spread along the channel and the area was covered with shredded hay to cut back on erosion. Planting of the basin will be on April 18th, WEAC's Day of Community Service as our signature project.

- f. **Open Space Update-**The Open Space and Land Preservation Committee have formed an oversight committee called the Friends of Mill Creek Preserve. There is a monthly lecture series, which will take place prior to the Open Space and Land Preservation Committee meetings, at 7:00PM. Experts in different fields, relative to this large parcel, will give these lectures. Some examples include deer management, meadows, riparian buffers, etc. The goal of this lecture series is to solicit public input and incorporate that information into our resource plan. The next lecture, "Designing Meadows" will be on February 12, 2020, and will be given by Mr. Drew Gilchrist, a representative from DCNR.

5. Future Agenda Items- There were no other agenda items.

6. Adjourn- Mr. Baratz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:27 P.M. Ms. Brown seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectively submitted,

Ivy Ross-

Vice- Chairman, WEAC