



Warrington Township
Environmental Advisory Council
Minutes of the Meeting
December 4, 2019

- 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; Fred Gaines and Ruth Schemm, Board of Supervisors; Amy Crasto, Member of the Public.

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

- 2) Public Comment** – There was no public comment.
- 3) Approval of Minutes** – On motion by Mr. Baratz and seconded by Mr. Suffian, the minutes of the October 2, 2019 meeting were approved. All were in favor.
- 4) Business:**
- a. 50 Year Anniversary of Earth Day-** Ms. Ross explained that Mr. Tony Black, the manager of Valley Square has agreed to let the WEAC host a 50th Anniversary of Earth Day event on April 25, 2020. Ms. Ross will inquire, in February, if Valley Square will provide tables, chairs and tents.

Ms. Ross asked that each member try to find a group that may wish to participate in the event. The following are some possibilities:

- Ms. Ross- Penn State Extension for Spotted Lantern Fly
- Mr. Pannerselvam- A green Energy Company and Bucks County Audubon
- Ms. Weremeychik- Barn Nature Center
- Ms. Laurelli- Bucks County Conservation District and Enviroscape
- Ms. Brown- A landscape company that sells pollinator plugs and native plants.
- Mr. Suffian- Target for some natural cleaning products.

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.
- b. 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.
- c. Morning Walk Basin-** Ms. Ross and Ms. Mary Stover, from CKS Engineers, went out to the Morning Walk basin to discuss how we can get more water to enter the filled in areas where Phragmites is now growing. Phragmites is an invasive, destructive, non-native plant that will out- compete the existing vegetation in the basin. There needs to be more than two inches of standing water in the area so that the plant will not go to seed. Mr. Stover recommended that parts of the sides of the existing flow channel be removed, possibly three or four small sections adjacent to the planted area of the basin. At the same time, some small channels should be re-dug at those sections to allow water to re-enter the area where the cattails were growing before they were removed. This should help to re-establish the cattails and prevent the Phragmites from going to seed. The existing Phragmites and their rhizomes also need to be removed to prevent spreading.
- d. 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.
- e. Single Use Plastic Bags- Letters to Businesses-** Ms. Ross explained that Mr. Pannerselvam and Mr. Xu are working together to come up with a local plan. They

are going to contact two students from Central Bucks South's Environmental Club to help with an outreach plan.

- 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, "Protecting Birds and Wildlife" will be on January 8, 2020, and will be given by Mr. Vinobha Pannerselvam.

5. Future Agenda Items- Mr. Baratz made a motion that we cancel the January 1, 2020 WEAC meeting. Ms. Brown seconded the motion. All were in favor.

A subcommittee meeting for the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day event will be held on January 8, 2020 at 6:00PM, prior to the regularly scheduled Open Space and Land Preservation Committee meeting.

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