



Montgomery Township
Environmental Advisory Committee
March 22, 2011
7:30pm

The monthly meeting of the Montgomery Township Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) was held on February 22, 2011 in the Montgomery Township Municipal Building. The members of the EAC in attendance included: Nick Fortune, Beth Staab, Jeff Gibbons, John Griffies, Jeanine Hurry and Terry Wilson. Also in attendance were John Ferrier and Kirsten Boettcher, Montgomery Mall; Joe Walsh, Board of Supervisor Liaison; Bruce Shoupe, Director of Planning and Zoning; and Kate Grubb.

I. Pledge of Allegiance and Call to Order

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 7:34pm.

II. Nominations for Vice-Chairman

Chair Nick Fortune nominated Beth Staab as Vice – Chair and Jeanine Hurry seconded the nomination. The nomination passed 6-0.

III. Approval of Minutes – January 25, 2011

Nick Fortune made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from February 22, 2011 and Beth Staab seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0.

IV. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

V. Opening Remarks

Nick Fortune announced that Varsha Desai is no longer a member of the EAC and the Board of Supervisors will be seeking a volunteer to appoint to the vacant position.

Beth Staab commented that she has been corresponding with Joe Walsh about Nor Gwen students expressing an interest in cleaning up the creek.

Nick Fortune added that there is excessive trash and recycling items where the basketball courts are located at Spring Valley Park. He questioned if there should be more recycling receptacles at the park or a need to empty the receptacles more often. Bruce Shoupe interjected that Whistlestop Park will be closed for 2 years for field repairs. Discussion ensued regarding the need for signage at Whistlestop Park announcing the township's "No Play" field policy.

VI. New Business

A. Earth Day 2011 – Montgomery Mall

Nick Fortune stated that he sent an email to both Cari & Nancy with the Wissahicken Watershed Partnership about tables for Earth Day. He will coordinate with Beth about rain barrels but is not sure if they will be able to bring one. Bruce Shoupe reminded the members that larger materials needed for the event could be dropped off earlier in the week and taken to the mall for storage.

Beth Staab added that the Penn State Extension will be hosting a gardening table.

Nick Fortune asked if the township had any composting bins in the basement to bring to the event. Bruce Shoupe stated that there were no bins in the township's possession. Beth Staab commented that Costco has composting bins for \$100. Kirsten Boettcher stated that she could contact Costco about possibly donating a composting bin for the event. Jeanine Hurry added that she could research 'composting' and provide a flyer with photos of various composting bins.

Nick Fortune confirmed that Peggy Schmidt with TMA will host the biking/walking table. Additionally, he noted that PECO Energy Education Team is interested in hosting a table at the event.

Kirsten Boettcher confirmed that the Kid's Corner would have a world magnet & a plant your own marigold station. Dicks Sporting Goods will provide a representative to fit bicycle helmets.

Nick Fortune welcomed Bob Hartman from the local Cub Pack to the meeting. Bob Hartman commented that he will handle the scheduling and provide 2-4 boys per hour, in uniform, from 11am to 4pm. Nick Fortune added that the cub pack can help police the name signing on the wall and also fetch water, paper towels, and help clean up.

Kirsten Boettcher thanked Bruce Shoupe for his efforts, because Bottom Dollar & Bertucci's will be collaborating and partnering with the event. The car route has not yet been mapped out, but she has secured an area for paper shredding and 1-800-GOT-JUNK (no household appliances or TV's). Additionally, she is still pursuing car dealership to acquire a hybrid vehicle, and will reach out to Septa about their hybrid bus.

Nick Fortune stated that the event flyer was finished and distributed to the EAC list serve. Event details are also on the Montgomery Mall Marquee, and on NPCN.

Supervisor Walsh stated that he will speak with Chair Bob Birch, to be interviewed during the event and also contact the Reporter about featuring an article about the event. Beth Staab said that she can reach out and email Representatives Kate Harper and Stewart Greenleaf and also email the flyer to the Lansdale Patch and the North Penn School District.

Nick Fortune stated that as many members and volunteers that can come out to the event would be greatly appreciated. He recognized that the event is the same day as baseball's Opening Day and volunteers may be limited.

Kirsten Boettcher stated that she has reached out to various contacts about solar energy, but has yet to hear back from anyone. Supervisor Walsh stated that there is a township resident he could approach to possibly host a table about solar energy.

Beth Staab gave Bruce Shoupe booklets regarding Greenways to distribute during the event.

B. Park Comprehensive Plan

Bruce Shoupe commented that EAC members may still provide comments and feedback to him regarding the Township's Park Comprehensive Plan.

C. EAC Meetings in April

Nick Fortune reminded committee members that the EAC meetings in April will be on Wednesday, April 6th and on Tuesday, April 26th at 7:30pm.

D. Meeting Attendance Reminder

Nick Fortune commented that while attendance has been poor in the prior months, all members were present at tonight's meeting.

IX. Other Business

X. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 8:36pm. **The next meeting of the Environmental Advisory Committee will be April 6, 2011 at 7:30pm.**