

**APPROVED
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
JANUARY 9, 2023
VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting commenced at 7:35 PM.

Attendance

Present: Letty Savage, Denise Rose, Jim Porcelli, Paul Minor, Stephanie Gundling, Rege Ebner, Chris Hartigan

Absent: None; 1 member vacancy.

Guests: None

Prior Meeting Minutes

The December 5, 2022 meeting minutes were previously approved.

Old Business

- Tree Pittsburgh Meeting

Virtual meeting with Danielle Crumrine, Executive Director of Tree Pittsburgh on Friday, December 16, 2022. Mary Ellen Ramage to explore ordinance clinic with North Hills COG; no details received yet. Paul volunteered to check any future landscape plans against City of Pittsburgh Approved Species list link received from Danielle. EAC would like to also add as a link to EAC section of website. EAC member suggested examining Sewickley Tree Commission.

- Spring Roadside Cleanup

Roadside cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, April 29, 2023 between 10am and 12pm along McAleer Road. Steph and Paul will arrange for supplies. The event will be publicized through the Borough newsletter, electronic newsletter (50 people), and email blast (150 people). The event will also be publicized through the Borough's social media platform, which is expected to be functional by February 2023. Paul, Letty, Steph, Chris, Jim plan to attend cleanup. Paul to publicize at kids' school. Can split volunteers into 3 zones. Steph to register with PennDOT for supplies.

- Stream Cleanup

Jim contacted Quaker Valley Creekers, suggested Little Sewickley Creek Watershed. He is following up. Letty suggested connecting with Creek Connections at Allegheny College who has done work at LSC in past.

- Acorn Park Cleanup

The 2019 volunteer day in Acorn Park was delayed. The Borough will be renovating the recreation and parking lot area of the park and we must coordinate any effort with that renovation, since parking in the park is very limited. Once the Borough schedule is determined, then we can determine a date for a volunteer day. Schedule won't be known until February.

- Sewickley tree tubes for new tree plantings

Bell Acres gave permission to reuse 50 tree tubes from Bell Acres Park for use at Acorn Park. Steph will pick up.

January 9, 2023 Meeting Minutes

- Joint Comprehensive Plan

Next meeting is January 25, 2023 at 6:30pm at Ohio Township Nature Center. Paul and Steph plan to attend.

- Environmental Education Programs

Letty drafted a Preliminary Environmental Education Plan to educate Franklin Park residents on environmental matters. Two suggested programs include periodic family walks and summer camp. It was stated that Eco-Adventure Camp (Coach Dave Gray) for kids 6-13 is done in FP every year at Blueberry and Linbrook. Are there additional camps we can attract to FP? Letty to reach out to various groups which may include ALT Environmental Education Camp, Venture Outdoors in North Park, PA Master Naturalist, Audubon Society of Western PA. Considering a Family Walk in spring.

- Publications

Request Spotted Lantern Flies and Benefits of Bats to be put on the Borough website. Request the website be modified to include a dedicated tab for EAC Events and Education/Links. Rege & Donna to setup.

New Business

- Newsletter Deadline

January 15 – Deadline for Spring Newsletter; to advertise Spring Roadside Cleanup

- Member Vacancy

1 Applicant to be interviewed next week.

Landscape Plans

There were no landscape plans to review.

Action Items

Rege – Add Section to EAC webpage for Events and Education/Links, Add Bat & Spotted Lanternfly Publications to EAC webpage, Add City Approved Tree link to EAC webpage, Advertise Spring Roadside Cleanup in Spring Newsletter

Steph – Register Cleanup with PennDOT for supplies; Pickup tree tubes

Letty – Explore summer camp and family walk partnerships

Denise – Help with EAC website

Jim – Stream cleanup correspondence

Paul –

Chris – Order 2-4 signs for roadside cleanup.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Stephanie Gundling

EAC Chair