

**APPROVED
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
May 2, 2022
VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES**

Virtual Meeting began at 7:35PM

Present: Paul Minor, Letty Savage, Cassandra Miller-Butterworth, Denise Rose, Jim Porcelli

Absent: Stephanie Gundling; Chris Hartman; Rege Ebner

Guests: Martin Karl

April Meeting Minutes were previously approved.

Old business

- Community Garden

Denise and Letty gave an update. The garden, which will be located across from Linbrook Park, is scheduled to open June 1, 2022. The manual and application are currently being reviewed by the Borough. Once approved, these documents will be distributed. Letty forwarded soil for testing to Penn State and the results will be returned to Rege. Cassandra will assist by posting flyers around the Borough. The well proximate to the garden plots has not been used in over three years and therefore needs to be serviced and tested before being used. In the interim, an alternate water source will be needed. The availability and procedure to rent plots must be publicized. Such an outreach is underway. The assignment of plots will be on a first-come first-served basis. In the event there is interest in more than the currently planned 10 plots, then there will be a waiting list for more plots that may be available in the future.

- Issue of garbage along Borough Roads

The roadside pickup event held Saturday, April 30 was a success with 14 volunteers picking up 32 bags of garbage and miscellaneous car parts. The pickup was held on Nicholson Road between the YMCA and Concordia. Depending upon the interest, we intend to make this a regular event and will focus on the next cleanup sometime in the fall. One road section of interest was Rochester Road near McAleer Road. We will provide information and a sign up sheet for an autumn or future roadside pickup event at the Festival in the Park.

- Comprehensive Plan

This update will be given next month. Denise suggested that a Franklin Park Conservatory, similar to that in Mount Lebanon, be considered for the comprehensive plan.

New Business:

- Tree Pittsburgh activity

John Parks, the Borough President, requested that the EAC review this opportunity to see how it may fit into Franklin Park's future. Paul and Jim will look further into this program, which may provide the

opportunity for individual tree plantings in local parks or on residential property. This effort may be fairly expensive and therefore we will attempt to come up with some sort of mechanism that will implement the program but on a limited basis according to available budgets. To promote this effort in a small but readily achievable way, the EAC will have at the Festival in the Park table handouts on how to plant trees.

- Festival in the Park

The Festival in the Park will be held on Saturday, June 25. The EAC will request two tables. We will invite the tech expert Bill Moore of the PA Lyme Resource Network to provide literature and advice at our table. Paul will compile a collection of hazardous wastes and use this as an opportunity to inform residents of the different mechanisms for disposing of hazardous waste in the Borough. Cassandra will put together a handout for distribution directed to the benefits provided by baths and not only insect control but for environmental benefits. Denise will supply Thermancell Tick Tube boxes and put together informational handouts for the table. Denise will also provide a Community Garden flyer and a signup sheet for future gardeners.

In the past we handed out Tick removal tools, animal crackers, pens, and seeds as prizes for our spinning wheel. Because last year we saw a record number of visitors at our table, our supplies have dwindled. Denise will purchase tick removal tools, pens, and seeds in the amount of at least 50 each. It was decided that the seeds should be directed to mixed wildflowers that would be a Midwestern or eastern mix. Jim will take care of the cookies.

Paul and Letty may provide flats of wildflowers and pollinator flowers to distribute to interested individuals visiting our table. We need 4 volunteers – 2 individuals for each of the two hour shifts (4-6 and 6-8PM).

As of Thursday at noon there were no landscape drawing to review.

Since our meetings in July and September each fall on a holiday, the EAC meetings for those months will be moved to Tuesday July 5 and Tuesday September 6.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45PM

Jim Porcelli
EAC Chair