

1. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT:

Helise Bichefsky, DO
John Butow
Brendan Phillips
Brian Walker
Zoe Warner, PhD

ABSENT:

John Meisel

Staff, Members of Borough Council, & Professionals Present:

Christopher Bashore, Borough Manager

2. MINUTES

A motion was made by Helise Bichefsky, DO, seconded by Brendan Phillips, and carried by a vote of 5-0, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, February 28, 2020 as presented.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. MEETING SCHEDULE

Borough Manager Bashore reviewed a potential meeting schedule with the members of the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC). The EAC was in agreement to meet on fourth Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. MALVERN BOROUGH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

Borough Manager Bashore stated that the Borough recently received a Vision Partnership Program grant from Chester County for the update to the Borough's Comprehensive Plan. It was noted that a member of the EAC will be appointed to the planning task force. Borough Manager Bashore noted that the Comprehensive Plan contains components pertaining to such items as energy efficiency and natural resource protection. Information from the Borough's 2012 Comprehensive Plan was reviewed with the EAC. Links to the 2012 Comprehensive Plan will be circulated.

No action was taken.

b. VIRTUAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS/MATERIALS

The members of the EAC discussed virtual educational programs/materials that could be done during the COVID-19 pandemic. Zoe Warner, PhD., recommended articles and information related to stormwater, including toxicity. Zoe Warner, Ph.D., noted a

publication from Fairfax County, CT about slowing the flow of stormwater. It was recommended that information be tied to the Randolph Woods Master Plan being developed. The Committee discussed having a stormwater education program. Brendan Phillips agreed with this recommendation. John Butow recommended including information from the website for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as a resource.

Brian Walker recommended having a course on recycling. Information on the Borough website regarding recycling was reviewed. Zoe Warner, Ph.D., suggested contacting the Chester County Solid Waste Authority regarding a virtual training. Brendan Phillips asked about information regarding paper vs plastic bags. John Butow noted that paper bags are a better environmental choice. Zoe Warner, Ph.D., recommended a recycling FAQ page in the newsletter and on the Borough website. Brian Walker stated that he will start a Google Doc in order for members to add information/discussion points. Helise Bichefsky, DO stated that she thought a statement from local stores would be beneficial.

Borough Manager Bashore stated that the Borough will add a page on the Borough website for the EAC and information may be posted there.

c. STATE ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS – SINGLE-USE PLASTIC BAGS

Borough Manager Bashore stated that Borough Council recently received communications from a group called Penn Environment regarding the potential extension of the preemption on municipal authority to enact ordinances regulating single-use plastics. Copies of the correspondence received was provided and Borough Council seeking input from the EAC on writing a letter in opposition to the extension of this preemption to the Borough's state representation. Brendan Phillips noted that writing a letter does not necessarily mean an ordinance will be adopted, it opposes taking this authority away from municipalities.

A motion was made by John Butow, seconded by Brendan Phillips, and carried by a vote of 5-0 to recommend that Borough Council send a letter to the Borough's state representation opposing an extension of the preemption of municipal authority to regulate single-use plastics.

d. EAST WHITELAND TOWNSHIP EAC

Brian Walker stated that he spoke with the chair of the East Whiteland Township EAC and they offered to meet with the Malvern Borough EAC at their next meeting.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Eric Beauregard, 153 Woodland Avenue, thanked the EAC for their discussion during the meeting.

6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, a motion was made by John Butow, seconded by Brendan Phillips, and carried by a vote of 5-0, to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Christopher Bashore
Borough Manager