

EAC MEMBERS PRESENT:

Helise Bichefsky, D.O., Chair
Brian Walker, Vice-Chair (via Zoom)
Zoë Warner, Ph.D., Secretary
Tiffany Brouillet
Christine Hafer (via Zoom)
Brendan Phillips
Joanne Zhou

CALL TO ORDER

Helise Bichefsky called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Brendan Phillips, seconded by Joanne Zhou and carried by a vote of 6-0 to approve the minutes from September 22, 2022. Tiffany Brouillet did not vote because she arrived after the vote was taken.

OLD BUSINESS

1. National Solar Tour
Mark King reported on the turnout for the National Solar Tour event on October 1, 2022. It rained that day, so turnout was lower than expected. Seven people signed up, but three people actually came out to learn more about his solar setup. EAC members discussed opportunities to increase attendance next year. The event will be on October 6-7 in 2023.
2. Community Composting Program
Tiffany Brouillet presented the program to Malvern Borough Council on October 4, 2022. The general reception of the program was positive, but members of Borough Council had a number of follow-up questions. Tiffany presented them to Colleen from Back to Earth and is waiting for answers. Residents will be chosen for the pilot program on a first sign-up basis. EAC will use social media to determine interest in composting and get feedback on the proposed program.
3. Rain Garden – Protection
Helise said the rain garden needs to be protected because people are riding their bikes in the rain garden, which is getting damaged. Zoë Warner said Public Works said there might be an opportunity to make more permanent protection using a post and rail fence.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Administrative Business

There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony for Quann Park once it is complete. The library would like to provide books on rain gardens as part of the ceremony.

Helise has to submit the 2023 budget by the end of the month.

2. Rain Garden Signage

Zoë is working on getting a quote for the rain garden sign at Quann Park. The EAC has decided to use PennState Extension's template for rain garden signage. PSE requires edits to the rain garden template be completed by a graphic designer. We will use the designer recommended by PSE. Zoë will get the quote finalized and work with Corinne to complete the purchase of the sign by the end of the year.

3. DCNR Educational Event

Nothing to report

4. Winter Newsletter

Tiffany will write an article on spring cleaning. Zoë will write an article introducing the Homegrown National Park initiative.

5. Bird Town Application

Zoë made a presentation on the requirements for applying to become a PA Bird Town. The EAC is in agreement to complete the application. Zoë will work on the application.

6. Stormwater Master Plan

Zoë will write a recommendation to hiring a consultant to develop a stormwater master plan. The recommendation will be submitted in jointly with the Malvern Planning Commission.

7. Homegrown National Park Initiative

Zoë made a presentation proposing a year-long initiative under the unifying theme of getting Malvern on the Homegrown National Park map. This initiative would involve other Malvern institutions and committees. Members of the EAC will present the initiative to other Malvern committees to ask them to partner with us on the initiative.

8. Budget Requests

A motion was made by Brendan Phillips and seconded by Tiffany Brouillet, and carried by a vote of 7-0, to use the remainder of the budget to pay for the rain garden sign.

For 2023 the requested budget will remain the same at \$1000.

REVIEW OF COMPLETE EVENTS

1. Borough Broadcaster

Zoë wrote an article on the rain garden event in September. Brian Walker and Helise wrote an article about the street tree ordinance.

FUTURE EVENTS

1. Christmas on King

Christine Hafer has been collecting recyclable materials and has put together kits to make holiday crafts. She will distribute the kits at Christmas on King. Tiffany will demonstrate how to make a homemade, foraged holiday planter with natural items collected that can be found in the yard.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Social Media

Christine will create an Instagram account for the EAC. Christine will be the social media liaison and will be responsible for checking for comments/questions on social media.

2. Borough Updates

The Borough will be applying for the Solid Waste Authority Grants- Zero Waste grant.

3. Borough Council Update

DCNR encouraged the Borough to apply for more grant money for Randolph Woods.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark King, 16 Griffith Ave., shared a link to a Doug Tallamy presentation that he attended.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Brendan Phillips and seconded by Tiffany Brouillet and carried by a vote of 7-0, to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Zoë Warner