

MALVERN BOROUGH
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
Malvern, PA 19355

June 22, 2023
7:00 P.M.

EAC MEMBERS PRESENT:

Zoë Warner, Ph.D., Chair
Helise Bichefsky, D.O., Vice-Chair
Cecelia Oswald
Brendan Phillips
Joanne Zhou

Eric Beauregard, Alternate
Tiffany Brouillet
Christine Hafer

CALL TO ORDER

Zoë Warner called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Cecelia Oswald, seconded Brendan Phillips and carried by a vote of 5-0 to approve the minutes from May 25, 2023.

OLD BUSINESS

Unfinished Business

1. Bird Town

Bird Town PA signs have been installed at the four main entrances the Borough: the east and west ends of King Street, South Warren Avenue, and Old Lincoln Highway.

The EAC agreed there should be a separate Bird Town committee, with Eric Beauregard representing the EAC. The EAC will do a search for Malvern residents who would be interested in serving on Malvern's Bird Town PA committee. The EAC will seek approval from the Malvern Borough Council to create a stand-alone Bird Town committee.

2. MMP/HNP Library Collaboration

Zoë Warner and Joanne Zhou will represent the EAC at the Monarch event on June 26, 2023. The event will include a presentation, milkweed planting by the attendees, and a giveaway of milkweed plants.

3. Malvern Retreat House

Members of CRC Watersheds will conduct a site visit at the Malvern Retreat House on June 23, 2023 to look into the possibility of holding a tree planting event at MRH in the near future. The EAC will support and facilitate this event when it occurs.

4. MBPA sustainability initiative

Nothing to report

5. Legacy Trees

Hugo Schmitt, from the Historical Commission, and Joe Bones, from the Shade Tree Commission, have agreed to work on the legacy trees initiative with Helise Bichefsky-Reilly. They will meet in August to discuss the project.

6. PA Avenue Woods

Tiffany Loomis provided information to the Malvern Borough Council regarding the proposed development plan for the 9.9 acre PA Woods Property at 120 Pennsylvania Avenue that lies at the headwaters of Valley Creek. No further action has been taken at this time.

7. EAC web page and social media posts

Helise Bichefsky-Reilly will work with Corinne Badman to include links to previous newsletter articles on the EAC's webpage on the Malvern Borough website.

Christine Hafer has committed to posting a few times a week on the EAC's Instagram page to build the EAC's following. She would like members of the EAC to help her in this effort by sharing the EAC's Instagram account: @malvernboroeac.

The EAC discussed the possibility of ordering QR code stickers that could be linked to EAC content. The stickers could be placed around town and linked to EAC webpage, so people can find information easily. The EAC decided to work on building more content before ordering the QR code stickers.

Helise Bichefsky-Reilly will put together informational signs related to the EAC's work/initiatives that can be placed in the message boards at Rubino Park and Randolph Woods.

8. Ordinance updates/proposals

Cecelia Oswald presented options for updating Malvern's subdivision and land use ordinance 302.4 related to grass height to allow for taller grass in May as part of a "No Mow May" initiative. Cecelia will draft the new ordinance, and we will vote on it at the next meeting.

Cecelia will present options for a single-use plastic ordinance at the next meeting. In the near future, the EAC will draft an ordinance to phase out two-stroke engines by a predetermined date.

9. Mayors Monarch Pledge

Helise Bichefsky-Reilly circulated a draft of the mayor's proclamation to EAC members for their review. Once all comments are collected, Helise will provide a copy of the proclamation to the mayor who will present it to Borough Council.

Helise Bichefsky-Reilly will investigate options for educational signage that can be placed near the Mayor's Monarch Garden at Borough Hall.

NEW BUSINESS

10. Dark Skies Initiative

The Malvern Planning Commission will be working on updating lighting ordinances to reduce light pollution. The EAC can play a role in educating homeowners about the affects of light pollution and how to reduce it on their own properties. The EAC will work with Parks & Rec to have the movie *Losing the Dark* shown at the next Parks & Rec movie night. The EAC will write an article on light pollution for the winter edition of the Borough Broadcaster.

11. EAC awards

The EAC will develop awards for homeowners taking measures to be more sustainable. This issue will be taken up at the September meeting during which members will develop categories for the awards.

Events

1. Monarch Talk – June 26
2. Invasive removal event in Borough parks

The EAC will hold this event on February 24, 2024, with a rain date of March 2, 2024. This date should be added to Malvern's central calendar

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark King announced the National Solar Tour will be held on the first Saturday in October. He will be participating again this year. Malvern Borough will send a constant contact to encourage other Malvern households to participate if they have solar panels.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Brendan Phillips, seconded by Helise Bichefsky-Reilly and carried by a vote of 5-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Zoë Warner