

MALVERN BOROUGH
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

July 27, 2023
7:00 pm

EAC MEMBERS PRESENT:

Zoë Warner, Ph.D. Chair
Helise Bichesky-Reilly, DO Vice-Chair
Christine Hafer, Secretary
Joanne Zhou
Tiffany Brouillet via zoom
Eric Beauregard, Alternate

ABSENT:

Cecelia Oswald, Ed.D.
Brendan Phillips

Call to order

Zoë Warner called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Helise Bichesky-Reilly seconded by Eric Beauregard and carried a vote of 5-0 to approve the minutes from the June 26, 2023 meeting.

Unfinished Business

1. MMP/HNP Library Collaboration – Review of Monarch event June 26

Zoe Warner presented on monarch butterflies and the Mayors' monarch pledge. Plants and seeds were given away.

2. Bird Town – Committee formation and Member recruiting

Eric Beauregard will participate on the committee. An introductory bird walk/watch is being planned for September 30, 2023 at 9 am. Different apps (Merlin & Audubon) can help with identifying birds. Advertising for the event is to be done via social media and in town.

3. Malvern Retreat House

CRC Watersheds will work with MRH to choose a suitable site for a tree planting event in fall 2023 or spring 2024. The project is moving forward but more information is needed.

4. MBPA sustainability initiative

Tiffany Brouillet and Christine Hafer will contact the MBPA about supporting town events and making them environmentally friendly (less plastic and waste).

5. Ordinance updates/proposals – “No Mow May” and Single-Use Plastic Ordinances

Discussion postponed until August meeting

6. Mayors Monarch Pledge

Helise Bichefsky-Reilly shared the proclamation written for the Mayor regarding the monarch pledge. It will be presented to the Borough council at their next meeting. The entire month of May will be focused on nurturing native gardens for monarchs. Ideas were presented for signage to go around the town. Educational preprinted handouts were also suggested as a resource. A motion was made by Helise Bichefsky-Reilly to purchase a sign and seconded by Joanne Zhou. Mayor Zeyn Uzman made a pledge to spend up to \$1500 for the signage.

7. PA Avenue Woods

Zoe Warner will write a recommendation to be voted on by the planning commission to investigate the opportunity to keep the woods in their natural state.

8. Dark Skies Initiative

Zoe Warner proposed showing a Dark Skies documentary (Losing the Dark) prior to the movie shown at the Parks & Rec movie night.

9. EAC web page and social media posts

Helise Bichefsky-Reilly and Corinne Badman are working to archive the EAC newsletters online. Christine Hafer has been working on increasing the EAC following on social media. A suggestion was made to advertise environmental giveaways quarterly.

New Business

1. Application for free native plants

The National Wildlife Federation is offering an opportunity to apply for free native plants. Recipients just need to pay for shipping and commit to planting the plants within 3 days. The EAC will apply for the plants and put them in at Burke Park.

Upcoming Events

Invasive removal event in Borough parks – February 24, 2023

Public Comment

Mark King made a comment about participating in the solar tour for October 6-8, 2023.

John Buckley made a comment about borough budgeting.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Zoe Warner seconded by Helise Bichefsky-Reilly to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 pm.

Minutes submitted by Christine Hafer