

EAC MEMBERS PRESENT:

Zoë Warner, Ph.D. Chair
Helise Bichesky-Reilly, DO Vice-Chair
Christine Hafer, Secretary
Joanne Zhou
Cecelia Oswald, Ed.D.
Tiffany Brouillet (on zoom)
Eric Beauregard, Alternate

ABSENT:

Brendan Phillips

Call to order

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

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Helise Bichesky-Reilly seconded by Cecelia Oswald and carried a vote of 6-0 to approve the minutes from the September 2023 meeting.

Unfinished Business

1. Bird Town

A decision was made to send out more advertising for member recruiting. Eric Beauregard reviewed the bird walk from September 2023. About thirty people were in attendance and a variety of birds were seen. Participants asked about doing another bird walk in the Spring. Eric also discussed the options of installing a bird blind to promote bird watching and the Bird Town initiative.

2. Malvern Retreat House

Eric Beauregard met with the Malvern Retreat House about the memorial garden. This would need to be approved by their board. Zoe Warner stated that the Planning Commission will look into zoning changes in January 2024.

3. No-Mow May resolution

This resolution will be decided at the Malvern Borough council in November 2023. The resolution would allow residents the option to grow their lawn above the height allowed in the property maintenance ordinance for the month of May only. Cecelia Oswald explained that the resolution is an optional “no mowing proposal” for May 2024 to support local pollinators and birds. A yard sign designating these properties will be decided upon at a future meeting and an article about the resolution will be submitted in the Borough Broadcaster for Winter 2024.

4. Plastic Bag Ordinance

Cecelia Oswald is still working on the proposal for this ordinance.

5. Mayor's Monarch Pledge

Zoe Warner said that the Borough Hall planting was finished Friday, October 20, 2023 and flowers were added to the rain garden. Zoe Warner proposed making a full milkweed garden by Borough Hall but approval is needed from the Borough Council.

6. MBPA/Farmer's Market sustainability initiative

Helise Bichefsky and Christine Hafer have submitted the list of initiatives, and they are waiting for the MBPA to provide a meeting date at which they will present the proposed ideas.

7. EAC web page and social media posts

- a. Christine Hafer and other EAC members will continue to post regularly on the website and social media accounts.
- b. Promoting sustainability actions by Borough residents - Helise Bichefsky wanted to create a posting encouraging social media interactions between Borough residents that would encourage them to share ideas that promote sustainability.
- c. Develop a list of thematic links to previous newsletter articles-TBD

New Business

1. Meadow signage for Paoli Battlefield

Helise Bichefsky will be working with the members of the Paoli Battlefield to see if they are willing to use their message boards to communicate the EAC initiatives. Zoe Warner discussed the importance of permanent signage explaining the meadow growth. Cecelia Oswald volunteered to research permanent signage.

2. Tabling events in Malvern

Helise Bichefsky discussed having materials for table events that advertise the EAC. A motion was made by Helise Bichefsky, seconded by Christine Hafer, to purchase a tablecloth with EAC insignia not to exceed the amount of \$150. This motion carried a vote of 6-0.

3. Sustainable PA

Cecelia Oswald discussed the Sustainable Communities project in Pennsylvania and wanted to see if the Malvern Borough could pursue certification.

Upcoming Events

1. Malvern Retreat House Tree Planting – November 3, 2023
2. Christmas on King – November 25, 2023 - The EAC will be giving away materials to make bird feeders at the event. A motion was made by Christine Hafer to approve funds not to exceed \$250 for materials for the Christmas on King event. It was seconded by Helise Bichefsky and carried a vote of 6-0.
3. Invasive removal event in Borough parks – February 24, 2023, rain date March 2, 2024
4. Cabin Fever Seed Giveaway – March 24, 2024 Joanne Zhou will work on collecting seeds. Tiffany Brouillet suggested creating business cards with seeds embedded for planting as a giveaway.
5. Burke Park Planting – April 2024

Public Comment

Ilija Djordjevic, a Great Valley High Junior, shared his passion for birds and his interest in becoming part of the Bird Town committee.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Christine Hafer seconded by Joanne Zhou and carried a vote of 6-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Christine Hafer