

MALVERN BOROUGH
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
1 East First Avenue
Malvern, PA 19355

August 27, 2020
7:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

John Meisel
Brendan Phillips

Staff, Members of Borough Council, & Professionals Present:

Christopher Bashore, Borough Manager

2. MINUTES

A motion was made by Helise Bichefsky, DO, seconded by John Butow, and carried by a vote of 4-0, to approve the minutes from the meeting held on Thursday, July 30, 2020 as presented.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Environmental Diet

Borough Manager Bashore stated that the Environmental Diet was not as successful as hoped. Helise Bichefsky, DO, noted that there may have been issues with the promotion. Zoe Warner, PhD, stated that more people may be participating than the Borough knows about. It was recommended that the existing gift cards currently in possession by the Borough from the Parks & Recreation Committee may be used as prizes. Brian Walker stated that the additional advertising capabilities may help make this activity more successful.

Mark King, 16 Griffith Avenue, stated that he has been trying to participate and noted the large number of cigarette butts that are around the community.

Zoe Warner, PhD, noted that August may have been difficult due to the start of school and concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Brian Walker recommended trying to restart the activity in September using social media. Zoe Warner, PhD, recommended recognizing participants if there is a virtual Halloween activity with the Parks & Recreation Committee.

Helise Bichefsky, DO, discussed the possibility of a clean road sponsorship program and if that was a possibility for the Borough's streets and parks. Borough Manager Bashore noted that a program for the parks may be difficult. Borough Manager Bashore discussed his experience with road sponsorship programs related to litter control. Borough Manager Bashore stated that he will speak with the Borough Solicitor about this possibility.

This activity will continue with adjustments made to the promotion in order to obtain increased involvement from the community.

b. Social Media

Borough Manager Bashore stated that an email address has been established for the Environmental Advisory Council (EAC). Alicia Marziani, Administrative Assistant/Parks & Recreation Coordinator, has created a Facebook page for the EAC.

Brian Walker stated that he will take care of managing the EAC's Facebook page and email account. Zoe Warner, PhD, stated that she has sent information to Alicia Marziani regarding wildlife rehabilitation and information related to proper placement of spotted lanternfly traps due to bird issues. Zoe Warner, PhD, and John Butow noted that this would be helpful information to post. John Butow recommended linking to the Penn State Extension.

Borough Manager Bashore recommended that the EAC attempt to issue a new post each week in order to draw people to the page and recommended reviewing the pages for the Parks & Recreation Committee and the Historical Commission for a guide. It was determined that the first post will be related to the spotted lanternfly.

c. Educational Programs

i. Recycling

Borough Manager Bashore stated that he does not believe that a tour of the Total Recycling facility was possible this year due to the pandemic. Borough Manager Bashore stated that the EAC could look to do a composting class in the spring.

Helise Bichefsky, DO, recommended that the EAC select a couple of topics to focus their energy on.

Borough Manager Bashore noted that some responses were received from the post issued on the Malvern Community Forum. These responses were forwarded to the EAC. John Butow stated that he would work on updating the recycling FAQs. Zoe Warner, PhD, noted that she provided information from the Sierra Club that pizza boxes could be recycled, even with grease and other remnants. Helise Bichefsky, DO, offered to assist. Borough Manager Bashore offered to review this for correctness. John Butow recommended including information on what is recyclable and how to identify types of plastic that may be recyclable.

John Butow recommended including information on electronic waste recycling and household hazardous waste disposal.

ii. Stormwater

Zoe Warner, PhD, believes that a focus would be beneficial due to the Borough being an urbanized area and this is a substantial issue that the Borough needs to be addressed.

Borough Manager Bashore noted that the EAC would review an active land development application if one were under review by the Borough.

Zoe Warner, PhD, recommended reviewing stormwater information from Penn State University. Borough Manager Bashore stated that the Chester-Ridley-Crum Watersheds Association has a large amount of stormwater resources available.

Helise Bichfsky, DO, and Zoe Warner, PhD, will review the information from Penn State University and update the EAC.

d. Stream names

Borough Manager Bashore noted that, to the best of his knowledge, all streams in the Borough are named.

4. NEW BUSINESS

There were no items of “New Business” for discussion.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Helise Bichfsky, DO asked if there were any comments from the public on items not on the agenda for the meeting.

No public comment was noted.

6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, a motion was made by John Butow, seconded by Zoe Warner, PhD, and carried by a vote of 4-0, to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Christopher Bashore
Borough Manager