

**East Pikeland Township
Environmental Advisory Council**

**Meeting Minutes
August 27, 2020**

Present: Dennis Ray, Betsy Burns, Milissa Hirst & Lynda Rebarchak
Guests: Paula Salanitro (potential volunteer)
Staff: Michelle Rubin

Chairman Dennis Ray called the meeting to order at 7:01pm. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the August monthly meeting was duly advertised and held electronically through the Zoom application via telephone and the internet.

Minutes from the July meeting were approved without changes.

New Business

1. New Vacancy
 - Samantha Uyeno has stepped down from the EAC, leaving a new vacancy. There are currently three openings.
2. French Creek Trail
 - Native Plants
 - Work to find areas that could support native flowers that are sunnier. Educate people about the native flowers that are currently there and when they flower.
 - Education
 - Betsy hasn't looked at the trees for plaques yet, but she will once the weather gets cooler; she will get in touch with Paula to do it together.
 - Connect trail education to an online site or app that would give people more information on each species.

Old Business

1. Ready for 100--Updates
 - Ready for 100 Info Sessions: Michelle and Dennis have been participating, Dennis will send connection info and calendar if others want to join in on a session.
 - Energy Star Portfolio Manager. Michelle talked to a person at PECO but they only do lighting audits. May still be worth it if we don't have LEDs/they give us free lights, Michelle will follow up.
 - Vision Partnership Grant: the East Pikeland Board of Supervisors voted to approve the Township's participation in the grant, as long as a total of three townships are participating. Still waiting to hear about the others interested.
 - PACEA: Phoenixville Area Clean Energy Alliance, an unofficial group made up of PRPC members has been meeting to work to get Township approval for the grant

2. Recycling Education

- Hauler Calls: Meghan is waiting on one more hauler and then all information will be compiled
- There is a new hauler trying to solicit business in the Township but they have not yet registered.

3. Stormwater

- Discussed possible ways to tackle stormwater education including free/reduced rain barrels with an education class, perhaps through Penn State? Lower Merion has an incentivized rain garden program to look at. Will continue to discuss options.

4. Single Trash Hauler

- The Committee discussed the next steps to take. Michelle will be reaching out to Townships who have transitioned from multiple to single haulers to find out what their experiences were. If they send RFPs or other documents Michelle will post them to the DropBox.
 - The committee feels we need to know what the price would be/potential cost savings in order to get an idea if people would be interested in switching. Then a community survey including pricing could be a next step, along with education.
 - Milissa discussed a 2 stage bidding process—the first is a request for qualifications where you have a list of qualification criteria (flexibility, references, list of complaints, education for customers, etc.). The second is a request for pricing, aka how much it would be based on our qualifications and rules/limitations we want to set. We wouldn't have to reward it, if we just wanted information. Would have to be careful to make sure that the pricing would be honored down the road to ensure correct education.
 - If we choose not to pursue the single hauler route, the Township could also educate people about options to reduce trash and even new hauler options like every other week pick up days etc.

Public Comment

None.

Adjourned at 7:55pm.

The next EAC meeting is scheduled for September 24, 2020.