EAC March 2023 Meeting Minutes

March 22nd 2023, 7pm Wed.

Springfield Free Library

# Attending

* Public: Erin, Ceclia, Chris, Patrick, Bernadetta Fox, Lassiter
* Committee: Stephen, Desiree, Joy, Aaron, Peter, Brandon, Chris, Martin

# Minutes

* Previous meeting minutes reviewed and approved.
* Polling guest introductions and interests
  + General
  + Plastic bag ban
  + Getting residents more involved
  + Clean-up at Stenton & Ivy Hill road clean-up for April 1st 2023
  + Unknown gentleman before meeting ask Brandon about "mower mufflers"
* Communication & Outreach
  + FB page 402 followers
  + Last month ~40+ posts
  + Gleaning topics from out meetings for future posts
* Native plant sale - draft flyer created by Zeta will be shared out via email to finalize
  + Native Plant workshop - 7pm March 30th
    - Home Grown National park, native plant finder, no dig garden beds and more will be covered!
    - <https://homegrownnationalpark.org/>
  + May 13th native plant sale.
    - Limit to X number of plants per person on the first part of the sale, and open it up for the 2nd part of the sale to give pple a change.
    - 50 last year, look to double it for this year, and add in 'plugs' which could be sourced for a lower cost. Putting us at a target of 150 plants for the sale.
    - Budget $800 - $700 for 100 plants, and $100 for 50 plugs. Target is a net zero expense.
    - Budget $100 for advertising materials for native plant sale (banners, plant sale).
    - Both budget expenses passed w/ unanimous vote.
    - For the fall, depending on success we can look to give out plugs at community day.
* School Partnership
  + Working closely w/ Dr. Yannacone & school sustainable club
  + Cecilia - Sustainability club - started plastic bag collection a few weeks ago. Box at school and library. Both filling up.
  + A few weeks from now doing a rain water capture & drip irrigation in the HS pollinator garden.
  + Suggested Cecillia presenting to School Board and Dr. Yannacone what they are doing.
* No Mow May
  + Run through of the presentation to the board
  + What does a yard look like at the end of that time?
  + Township code already has a conservancy plan option to exempt these.
  + Notify code enforcement and fire marshal.
  + People who are interested can sign up via an online form.
  + Need to provide this to Brandon by April 3rd to get on the BoC agenda.
  + Will need 25 signs, not to exceed $300. Voted on a conditional approval of the funds for purchase if the board approves this going forward.
  + Form will have the conservancy agreement in it, and they will be given a sign they need to give back.
* Plastic Bag Ban - summary of our conversation w/ Commissioner Ratsavong covering ordinance changes, inlcuding programming with it and equity recognition. All positive changes we need to incorporate and will share out once we get it together.
* EAC Library Booklist Display - have a sign w/ QR code and some info for a sign on the board.
* Birdtown Walk & Talk at Mermaid Park - Proposed for April 15th 9-10:30 AM. Do a combined bird talk (Zeta will drive this) Will use this and the plant sale to advocate for ppl to come and help do a weed pull in the park.
* Electrification of Landscaping equipment - Commissioner Maxwell is also looking into this and would be happy to share information and be included. Aaron is on point for this. Look to coordinate a demonstration of this.
* Friday April 21st - Rep Nelson invited us to have a table on 9-1 in Cheltenham. Gratz College is the location.
* EAC Vice-Chair Opening - Joy to step down, still committee member, but needs to step down.
  + Stephen volunteer to take the techno trash cans.
* Township update
  + Resignation of Commissioner Graham in Ward 7. Starts process to replace him.
  + Trail meeting was a great turn out.
  + Township got a grant $930k for Tank Car - buildings come down this year and will be doing a master site plan for this. Assessment of the site through act 2 clean-up. Condemnation of it has to be a park. It will be an active park, more to come for public comment.
* General public comment - Bernadetta - bring the idea of a seal of sustainability for people (businesses) to earn. A "green leadership" seal. Rotatory would be a good option for bringing this to them.

# Actions

* Brandon - confirm our receipts book will have enough for the plant sale.
* Zeta - provide Aaron/Brandon additional signs & flyers for ~$200
* Aaron / Brandon coordinate who can staff the table
* Agenda for next month:
  + "Green Leadership" seal idea in the township