

## **EAC Meeting Minutes – March 24<sup>th</sup> 2016**

**Attending:** Pete W, Stephen H, Zeta C, Mara B, Derek C, Robert C, Victoria

**Guests in attendance:** Aaron

**Cisco Park Grant update :** The updated planting plan has been completed, next is to have a meeting with the Academy to review the plan. This will be setup in the next few weeks with Mara (EAC), Chuck (Township) and Charlie (Parks & Rec).

**Staff Update :** No Update

**BoC Update :** The consortium of townships for the watershed partnership received a Pew grant for assistance in planning and keeping the watershed partnership moving forward. Started to review what options for renovating the Flouertown CC pool were, as it was about end of its life and will need to be replaced. Received an initial report with advice from the financial consultant who was hired to provide the BoC guidance on options for using the funds from the sale of the sewer system.

**Articles :** The last article on the Do's and Don'ts was published in the Sun. The Techno trash can is the next article which is up for publication, Patrick has this in hand and will provide a photo to go along with it. Stephen will be sending out a draft of the recyclable

battery article early next week for review. There are several articles which are covered below as outgrowth from our discussion regarding native, invasive and adaptive planting recommendations

Victoria put forth the idea of taking the Do's and Don't for recycling and tying it into a sticker to go along with the township recycle cans as part of their distribution. She volunteered to take it and work it into a more image based guide suitable as a sticker. The EAC would follow-up with the township and the township's printer once we had a suitable approved sticker.

**EAC Open House:** The email blast was provided to Mike for sending out via the township email blast which should hopefully go out early next week. Stephen would also follow up with posting the notice and request for volunteers on the Springfield Facebook group and on Nextdoor.com

**Discussion :**

Spurred by the development being done at CVS and other housing developments like Tecee, among others we discussed in depth what guidance and requirements were in place for land development in the township around native, invasive and adaptive plants and trees. As part of that discussion we reviewed two documents the township has as guidance for trees, shrubs and ground cover. The discussion covered what was in the township code, what other townships around Springfield had in their

codes. We also discussed how as an EAC we wanted to approach this topic and what educational opportunities along with possible recommendations the EAC could make to bolster guidance and ordinances around these topics.

The current lists the township uses were crafted over 4 years ago, so its a good point for review.

Also discussed researching Township code regarding removal/replacement of shade trees, as well as policies regarding prohibiting invasive species, and promoting native and adaptive trees/plants

The outcome of the discussion is that more research is needed, but overall the guidance is to approach it in the following way, all at least becoming an informational article:

- Invasive : Research what is in the township ordinance, and what other townships are doing in their ordinances
- Did you know? : Provide a summary of what is in the Springfield township ordinance around natives, native & adaptive planting requirements, shade tree and ground cover replacement
- Native & Adaptive: Research what is in the township code and what other townships are doing in their ordinances.
- Identify good, reputable and maintained sources we can put forward for residents and the township for guidance on

native and adaptive planting. 

**Action Items:**

- Stephen : find out what the planning commission and shade tree process is for reviewing plans and enforcement in regards to planting plans as part of development
- Victoria & Robert: research our ordinance to provide a summary back to the EAC and for part of the formation of the article.
- Peter and Zeta : send (or resend as appropriate) examples of what other neighboring townships have in their ordinances.
- Aaron : follow-up and see what the Delaware River Keepers reference internally.
- Stephen : Pass Zeta's Do's and Don'ts article for submission in the Township Newsletter
- Zeta & Derek : investigate a milkweed planting opportunity as part of an Earth Day activity. potential aesclepias planting, perhaps seeds could be sowed to supplement the existing perennial planting in Cisco Park (opposite side of the bridge from our grant project area), in order to provide a fuller, more attractive range of planting. This would need to be coordinated with Charlie Carabba.