



SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMISSION

EAC December Meeting Agenda

December 4, 2024 7 PM – Springfield Township Free Library

Attending

- Committee & Associates, Residents

WELCOME TO MEMBERS & GUESTS

- No guests scheduled

ATTENDANCE & APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- We'll publish October Minutes in January

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT/OPEN FORUM

- Beth - Tour of Mermaid Park in the spring
- Five residents attended

COMMUNICATION/OUTREACH

None

NEW BUSINESS

- Announcement - Gail
 - public open house being held by the MontCo Planning Commission focusing on their floodplain reconnection and restoration project in the Wissahickon, where Skippack Pike meets Bethlehem Pike (across from MaGerks). It is the restoration of the site that was inappropriately clearcut by the contractors who were doing the post-tornado clean up. This is in Whitemarsh Township, but so many residents drive by it and it is very visible, so I thought folks might be interested in learning about the efforts to restore the site.
 - https://www.montgomerycountypa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/45397/Flyer_Wissahickon-Floodplain-Restoration_FINAL
- Leaf Blower Call - Aaron

- Summarized current effort noted in the updates. Leaf Blower Coalition call was facilitated by PennEnvironment. Narbeth electrified their entire public works several years ago. Neighbors regularly engage with PW to learn more about electric equipment. ROI was less than 3 years. Maintenance costs totalled less than \$50 for the equipment. Charging has not been an issue. Batteries have not been an issue.
- Lower Marion will sponsor an education workshop for Landscaping Companies to learn about electrifying their Public Works lawn equipment. They are looking for sponsors to cover \$2,000. They are covering the first \$5,000. Motion to sponsor \$500 of the workshop passed unanimously.

Aaron will work with the township to get the check cut this year from our 2024 EAC Budget. Aaron will summarize his notes from the call and will share with Springfield Public Works.

- 2025 Planning - Martin - see plan on EAC Network Drive
- Composting Workshop will be conducted on Feb 22
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TOWNSHIP UPDATE/QUESTIONS

Updates - Brendan, Chuck

OLD BUSINESS

Commercial Leaf Blower Survey

We have received over 700 responses to the Survey so far, but would like to get over 1000. We have circulated the Survey on social media, Commissioner email lists, and we also have a QR code set up at the Library. So we should still be circulating the survey as widely in the Township as possible. Also, the Survey is going to take some unskewing as there are duplicates and fake email addresses submitted after it made its way around the What's Happening Springfield Facebook Group where there was lots of misinformation being spread regarding what the survey was about (a lot of people thought it had to do with PERSONAL leaf blowers even though it says clearly "commercial" throughout the Survey). There is a regional coalition meeting scheduled on gas leaf blowers that includes EAC members from throughout the surrounding areas headed by Ellie Kerns at PennEnvironment. In addition to more widely circulating the Survey, we plan on exploring different ways to do outreach to local landscaping companies to bring them together for a workshop put on by manufacturers that can explain their cost and environmental benefits, as well as their operational capabilities.

ADJOURNMENT

UPCOMING EAC EVENTS

January 22, 2024 7 PM – Springfield Township Free Library

Please note, EAC agendas are subject to change without notice.