

Haverford Township Environmental Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes – March 12, 2015, 7:30 pm

Attendees: EAC Members: Terry Watkins, David Schwartz, Michael Schafer, Aurora Dizel, Colleen Dwyer Hansen, Henry Eichman, Peter Puglionesi, Patty Loomer, Derron LaBrake, Dave Hartke; Commissioner Jane Hall; Volunteers/Guests: P. Hickman, Steve Rogers

1. Meeting Minutes

a. **Prior Meeting Minutes Approval** (Motion: H. Eichman, 2nd D. Schwartz, Unanimous).

b. **Volunteer to Prepare Tonight's Minutes** (P. Puglionesi)

2. **Welcome New Member:** Michael D'Antonio, 6th Ward Appointee.

3. **EAC Website:** Changes were re-transmitted to Larry Gentile on 3/11 but have not yet been posted (2013 Annual Report slides and Rain Garden Presentations need to be properly located and Agendas/Minutes posted). No further updates from web maintenance volunteer M. Schafer or Twp liaison N. Schmidt.

4. **Recycling:** H. Eichman discussed his summary report on a recent Springfield study with J. Hall. N. Schmidt acted on a suggestion and submitted a grant application for 25 outdoor recycling bins to be placed in outdoor locations. Grant award notification is due in early April.

5. **GSI & Rain Garden Subcommittee (DL, PSP, HE, DH, DS, NS) Update:**

NFWF Grants: D. LaBrake reported he is working on DCVA applications for two National Fish and Wildlife Federation (NFWF) grants for Chatham Glen Park and Thompson Nature Park to construct treatment wetlands and added storage capacity. Contractor construction estimates came in low, so it will include 20 or 30 Residential Rain Gardens in each proposal. There is a match of at least 25% required, but this could be in-kind labor by DCVA, Haverford Public Works, EAC Rain Gardens Team or other volunteers. Support letters are expected from the Township Manager, Parks and Recreation, Upper Darby, Philadelphia Water Dept. and the Eastern Delaware County Storm Water Collaborative (EDCSWC). EAC agreed to also submit support letters. P. Puglionesi indicated that SEPTA management reportedly sent a concurrence letter for the Hathaway Bioswales project, a third potential NFWF grant application, located on SEPTA property.

100 Rain Gardens Initiative: A planning meeting was held with the first of 5 owners to get spring 2015 rain gardens. The agreement was signed and several team members reviewed one-call markings reviewed, locations, size (approximately 10 ft. diameter and 6 in. deep) and plants with the homeowner. The tentative installation date is May 17th. P. Puglionesi noted this is the date of the Spring Music Festival, so some volunteers may have conflicts.

Oakmont Rain Garden: D. Schwartz and J. Anderson of EDCSWC submitted a \$500 mini-grant in Jan. to NFWF for planting the Oakmont Rain Garden. Awards to be announced in March.

Supporting Bus Yard Rain Garden: The Spring Rain Garden Workshop and planting day will be Sun., May 3rd, 1-4 PM (to avoid Mother's day and already scheduled community events). Per L. Widdop email, the Township will purchase plants and have delivered. P. Puglionesi called HTSD on using their training room at the bus yard maintenance building for the Workshop but got no reply. Jane Hall offered to speak with Dennis Gray, HTSD Board Chairman, about it.

Advice on Updates to Twp. Subdivision Design Standards: L. Widdop previously requested EAC recommendations to the Planning Commission for updating parking lot, sidewalk residential driveway specs and impervious cover standards to reflect modern GSI and improve infiltration and reduce flooding. D. Schwartz met with L. Widdop and provided comments on the current

Haverford Township Environmental Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes – March 12, 2015, 7:30 pm

ordinance. L. Widdop indicated that they are still looking for proprietary information on porous paving – the rules currently say “driveways shall be designed the same way as roads” and they want to provide suitable GSI alternatives. There is no time line for the update.

6. **Earth Day (Sat., April 18th, 2015).** Will stay at CREC and be more low key with hikes, talks, stream exploration, and plantings (e.g., spring follow up on rain garden planting). Dave Hartke lined up Cub Scout Troop 500 to volunteer. S. Rogers offered to reach out to other troops. A. Dizel offered to help N. Schmidt / D. Hartke coordinate and to work with Nora on the agenda.
7. **Haverford Heritage Festival (Sun. June 7th, 2015).** T. Watkins will be busy, but will loan EAC here table / tent. H. Eichman will coordinate the volunteers and information. P. Hickman needs to locate the Rain Garden Posters used at the previous public event.
8. **Haverford Township Day Green Zone (Sat., Oct. 3rd, 2015):** Dave Hartke volunteered to coordinate and reach out to HHS and MMS student groups, teachers and parents (e.g., HHS Boosters, AWARE, HAS) for a possible recycling competition (e.g., to break the world’s record for largest recycling container in a mega plastic bag to promote recycling of plastic containers) and to identify and invite a composting group. He will also see which Cub scout and Boy Scout troops (not already engaged with booths) can participate. Jane Hall will speak to Dennis Gray about students adopting recycling at the event.
9. **Mr. Storage/Eagle Road Subdivision Redevelopment** – D. Schwartz said he would follow up again with L. Widdop on EAC’s December *recommendation that the developer/Zoning Board consider a blue or green roof for the Superfund redevelopment* to make sure it gets conveyed to the Zoning Board.
10. **YMCA Proposed Parking Lot:** Potential for using GSI best practices.
11. **Preparation of the 2014 EAC Annual Report:** T. Watkins drafted a table of contents and it was circulated with last year’s report to use as a starting point. Volunteers so far include: Rain Gardens – D. Schwartz, Recycling – H. Eichman, Superfund – P. Puglionesi, Public Events – T. Watkins. Work should begin immediately on drafting the 2014 report.
12. **Rescheduling EAC Meetings:** The 2nd Wednesday of Month proved to be problematic for some members. There was a consensus to request changing the meeting schedule to the 1st Tuesday of the Month. P. Loomer so moved, H. Eichman seconded, approval was unanimous.
13. **Superfund Site:** Reviewed the documents and D. LaBrake indicated that the pumping was being conducted in the deep aquifer and the contamination detections between the near and far downstream pumping locations is in the shallow aquifer which is not influenced by deep pumping. (P. Puglionesi had a subsequent discussion with EPA and they will be seeking EAC input on the 5 year assessment and pumping shutdown timing.
 - a. **Annual Report/Recommendation to EPA to Shutdown Downstream Pumping:** P. Puglionesi reviewed his discussion with EPA regarding the PCP levels detected between the near/far wells in the shallow aquifer and EPA’s likely further assessment of this.
 - b. **Upcoming 5 year Assessment:** P. Puglionesi, D. LaBrake and H. Eichman offered to participate in EPA’s requested interview before the assessment. All EAC members were invited to submit any questions they have now to P. Puglionesi who will compile them.
14. **New Business – None**