

Haverford Township Environmental Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes – April 9, 2015, 7:30 pm

Attendees: EAC Members: Aurora Dizel, Henry Eichman, Derron LaBrake, Peter Puglionesi, David Schwartz, Nora Schmidt – Env. Coord. at C-REC and Township Liaison

1. Meeting Minutes

- a. **Prior Meeting Minutes Approval** (Motion: H. Eichman, 2nd D. Schwartz, Unanimous).
- b. **Volunteer to Prepare Tonight's Minutes** (H. Eichman)

2. **EAC Website:** L. Gentile said prior requested changes will be implemented by April 10.

3. **Recycling:** A. Dizel gave recycling stickers to Farmers market for distribution. H. Eichman to follow up further with J. Hall on his summary report on a recent Springfield study.

Discussed meeting with Public Works to discuss new ideas. Discussed alternative ways to ensure that new residents get a recycling bin, schedule, etc. including Public Works, EAC, Realtors. N. Schmidt said we did not win an award for Coca-Cola "bin grants" for parks – there were many times more applications than awards.

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

NFWF Grants: D. LaBrake submitted two DCVA applications for National Fish and Wildlife Federation (NFWF) grants for Chatham Glen Park and Thompson Nature Park to construct treatment wetlands and added storage capacity. Awards are due by early summer. With SEPTA concurrence letter for the Hathaway Bioswales project, a third potential NFWF grant application, located on SEPTA property can be submitted in a later round.

100 Rain Gardens Initiative: The first installation date is May 17th and further prep work is needed for the remaining 5 spring planting gardens. D. LaBrake indicated that only good soil locations should be selected and "wick" installation must not trigger EPA injection well rules (he indicated it cannot be deeper than its widest dimension or have a subsurface distribution system).

Oakmont Rain Garden: NFWF \$500 mini-grant awarded for planting the Oakmont Rain Garden. Dave S. will coordinate, planning on a fall planting. Discussed asking HPED to help publicize and participate in the planting and possibly pay for sign.

Supporting Haverford Township Darby Creek-Side 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) to support planting the Darby Creek riparian restoration project rain garden, per L. Widdop's request. The Township will purchase plants and have delivered.

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. No known time line for the updated spec and no updates since last meeting.

5. **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) and scout groups will be invited to participate. A. Dizel will work with N. Schmidt on further activities planning. D. Hartke and others volunteered to participate.

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6. **Haverford Heritage Festival (Sun. June 7th, 2015).** T. Watkins will loan EAC her table / tent. H. Eichman will coordinate the volunteers and information. Rain Garden Posters used at the previous public event were believed to be collected by trash crews before they could be retrieved. They will have to be redone. P. Puglionesi will “register” EAC for the event.
7. **Haverford Township Day Green Zone (Sat., Oct. 3rd, 2015):** A. Dizel volunteered to help coordinate and lead outreach to HHS and MMS 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.
8. **Mr. Storage/Eagle Road Subdivision Redevelopment** – No further action. 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.
9. **YMCA Proposed Parking Lot:** Potential for using GSI best practices were discussed on the phone with YMCA representatives.
10. **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. No further updates since last month.
11. **Rescheduling EAC Meetings:** In March a request to change the meeting schedule to the 1st Tuesday of the Month was unanimously approved. P. Puglionesi emailed L. Gentile with this request on April 8th, 2015.
12. **Superfund Site:** P. Puglionesi, D. LaBrake and H. Eichman participated in EPA’s requested interview on April 2, 2015. Reviewed the draft documents and EAC questions. EPA believes EAC questions have been or will be addressed in the draft 5 year assessment report, expected shortly.
13. **New Business – None**