



Meeting Minutes: 15 March 2010

Present:

EAC Members

Diana Erney
Mike Sacks
Katherine Harms
Judy Sechler
Cathi Kratzer

Also Present:

Ed Bender
Jeanne Barrett-Ortiz
Nicole Miller
Scott Swackhamer
Henry
Phil Kelley
Tim Sexton
Rick Hartly- DCNR
Tim Dugan- DCNR

Call to Order: 7:02PM

Chair's Comments: None at this meeting

Approval of Minutes from the February 2010 Meeting: Approved

Amendments to Agenda:

Mike spoke about the Tree Planting, Larry Lloyd is putting on a Tree Vitalize application on July 1, need to know by March 17th if you want to attend.

If you apply, there is a possibility to get a grant for tree planting in the amount of \$100,000. Mary Beth to be notified of this offering for Park and Recreation.

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Discussion Items:

Jeanne Bennett-Ortiz:

Jeanne has a current action plan for us to review, she is looking for a list of active project as well for the EAC.

Under #8, #12 and #13 Jeanne has material for us to review in regards to these three sections.

#8 Land Protection
#12 Comprehensive Plan
#13 Growth Management

Ask the group to review this and Jeanne will be in touch with each project team leader.

DCNR:

Land Owner and Community work is what they do, they can come out and educate the land owner, they also work with the community in developing programs for the local townships. There is no cost to the land owner to come out and educate a owner.

Any logging over a certain acreage needs a Erosion and Sediment plan that is something Ed Bender, zoning officer, will look to ensure is done prior to any logging being done.

Is there a certain percent of woods that can be moved? We have no specific plan at this time.

DCNR will taken an open end to ordinances, north tends to be less restrictive, south is more restrictive in regards to the ordinances they have in place.

Some Tips on hiring a logger:

Call DCNR first to ensure you are hiring a responsible logger.
DCNR does have a list of consulting loggers they can provide to you prior to any logging being done.

Ed Bender is suggesting a escrow to be done by a logger prior to any work to help cover any township costs such as road work to be done after the logging work is done.

Township Resident is concerned about the recent logging that was done and what the results were.

Need to check on the ordinance if there is one and if not, create a ordinance to protect our township.

4 methods of logging:

Clear Cut

Seed Tree Harvest

Shelter Wood- long term project this is a 2 stage project

Group Selection- long term project

Tulip Popular is a good fast growing tree in this area. Oak trees are growing back quickly but not like the Tulip Popular.

Concern on leaving the tree tops on a site, this is ok to go it allows the deer to eat the tree tops and helps the regeneration of growth as well.

Check out the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission boiler plate ordinance as well to see what they are doing in the Lehigh Valley.

Check out what the quarry's in Oley and Kutztown do from the damage done by the Quarry.

Audubon site visit was done, the location is nice and the bench will need to be moved.

The bench will be outside, look at mulching around and under the bench, trees on both side and maybe flowers near it as well.

Looked at cost of mulch, flowers and trees for around the bench area.

Contact the pastor at the Luthern Home to see if the children can come as well to help. Cathi to contact the Luthern Home and see if they can help.

Cathi to call about the bench and adding a plaque as well, "Donated by Longswamp Township Environmental Advisory Council, May 1, 2010" Cathi to order the bench in Redwood color.

Flowers will be donated by EAC members and residence.

Sludge:

Judy talked about the sludge concern, spoke about house bill #1341, the bill is not strong, they are still working on the bill and it is still being presented by Bud Camille, it is currently being worked on now and Judy will let us know when it is complete.

Grande- Water and Sewer Lines:

Judy is concerned about Grande Construction wanting to run water and sewer lines between EPM and Brandywine School district, concern is the sink holes and the damage to be done from this. Grande is telling up he has DEP approval and that is not correct, Judy is concerned about this. Judy spoke to the CEO at EPM about this and the CEO left her with the impression that they will not support this request from Grande. Mike to go to a Committee of the Whole on Monday, March 22nd at 6:00 PM. Mike to report back to us on this as well.

Positions:

Dale did resign immediately, a position is now open, there are now 2 open voting positions.

Nicole, Scott and Peter all attended the meeting in regards to the positions.

Peter will be the 4th voting member; Cathi will also now be a voting member. Motion was made to make Cathi and voting member by Judy and Diane seconded it, all in favor. Approved. Motion was made to make Peter a voting member by Kate and Diane seconded it, all in favor. Approved.

Scott and Nicole to join the committee as non voting members.

Nicole Miller
Scott Swackhamer
Peter Saenger

Adjourned 9:19PM

Next Meeting: April 19, 2010