

**East Vincent Township**  
**Environmental Advisory Council Meeting**  
**February 15, 2023, 6:30 PM**

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Elaine Milito opened the meeting at 6:31PM. In attendance were Chris Orzechowski, Molly Wagle, Chris Canale, and Michele Adams. Also in attendance was Township Manager, Catherine Ricardo. There were 2 guests.

1. Meeting minutes from January 18, 2023 were shared. There was a motion to approve the minutes.

Moved: E. Milito

Second: C. Orzechowski

Vote: Unanimous

2. Old Business

- A. Earth Day and Township Garden Planning

- i. A beautiful garden layout was created by Nicole Keegan, landscape architect

- Discussion was held on plants and where to obtain them. Chris got wild hydrangeas from Somerset Nursery

- ii. Budget

- Based off Prairie Nursery and other benchmarks, likely to cost ~\$550

- iii. Maintenance

- Weed in between the plants; no barrier fabric
- Recommend natural mulch
- Public works crew will maintain the pollinator garden

- iv. Signage, Volunteers: will revisit these topics once plan solidified

- v. Homegrown National Park, Penn State Certification

- Would be ideal to get this pollinator garden on the Homegrown National Park map, as well get certified through Penn State

- vi. Next steps:

- **Elaine to add photos to plant list**
- **Nicole to send the matrix of plants, quantity, and recommended sizes**
- **EAC to write up blurb on benefit of garden (proposal), and share with the quotes and plant list to Catherine. Catherine to get approval from BOS.**
- **Obtain at least 3 quotes (ask for optional installation)**
  - a. **Molly to reach out to the native plant nursery in West Chester and Media**
  - b. **Molly to reach out to Prairie to see if they can ship quickly**
  - c. **Nicole to get wholesale quote from a local native plant nursery**

- B. Website Contents

- i. **Action Item: Molly to create a website mapping for a resource page for residents**

- Add in calendar of events
- C. Grant Opportunities
  - i. Schuylkill Highlands
    - Grant would be ideal for another pollinator garden. Grant application due this spring
  - ii. PECO
    - Application due in the fall. Would be ideal for removing invasives
      - a. In independence park, would focus on removing vines from the specimen trees
- D. Stream Quality
  - i. Riparian buffers education for current residents along streams
    - Audubon has a program called [Plants for Birds](#), that is giving out the plants for residents that live along the streams.
      - a. **Action Item: Elaine to send information to Catherine for March e-newsletter**
    - Many of the tributaries for French Creek are degraded
    - One resident wanted to know what they could do to the creek to prevent flooding
      - a. It was recommended to talk to Green Valley, as they have grants to improve the riparian buffer. Another recommendation was to mow the invasives, then put in willow cuttings and red azure dogwood.
      - b. Permits are required for certain activities with riparian buffers. Call DEP or the township
    - It would be great to have a guide for homeowners. Stroud water research has done a program; French & Pickering is starting on a program
      - a. BDA = Beaver Dam Analogs; DEP guidance on woody items you can put in the creek to turn the creek; through naturalized systems (not stone)
      - b. Point to the DEP guidance & <https://www.pacodeandbulletin.gov/>, section 14 & section 105
    - Kimberton Waldorf got funding through the Delaware Estuary for a concept plan on the stormwater restoration projects
    - How to get information out to residents?
      - a. Target a project for next year to get funding at Independence Park, as that tributary is degraded already. That tributary goes into the Schuylkill.
      - b. Motion to make next year's project for EAC on riparian buffers

Moved: M. Adams

Second: E. Milito

Vote: Unanimous

- E. Recap of NCC-EAC meeting
  - i. Molly and Elaine attended, and will share minutes
  - ii. Great stuff going on!

3. New Business

- A. Update/ discussion on township issues
  - i. Solar Regulation is coming from Chester County
- B. Park & Rec Survey reviewed; to be done as a group, due by March

4. Open Discussion/Public Comment: No open discussion or public comment.

5. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn.

Moved: C. Orzechowski

Second: C. Canale

Vote: Unanimous