

04/17/24 Buckingham EAC Meeting Minutes

Present: D. Robb, A. Strout, D. Smith, J. Walter, M. Rash

Absent: R. Foster, S. Yerkes

Visitors: Lisa Braud, Jack DeBoyace, Wendy Margolis, Marie Progin, Lynn Quinn, [illegible on sign-in sheet], Stephanie Weisser

Meeting was called to order at 6:59 p.m.

There were no minutes to review; March minutes will be reviewed next month.

New business

Lighting ordinance. A visitor, Wendy Margolis of Doylestown, kicked off meeting with a complaint about light pollution coming from a home in The Ridings—a Buckingham development adjacent to her home. Was interested to know if we had plan to strengthen lighting ordinance. Rich Myers made a site visit, determined that the LED lanterns were at the correct (i.e., allowed) angle, but there was some question as to whether he was at the right house. Jim said existing ordinance restricted what was called “light trespass,” mandating no greater than a 60-degree angle on outdoor lights, and suggested we include this issue in our next newsletter to alert residents. Additionally, Maggie said she would follow up with Rich M.

Old/ongoing business

Bird Town certification. Next steps are to vote to approve, formally apply and form a subcommittee (which could be the EAC itself or another group of resident-volunteers). Requirements include an application fee of \$100.00, maintaining a Bird Town page on the township website, installation of a Bird Town sign and including our certification status in township events (e.g., Water-quality Roundtables). Jim said we are already doing the substantive work required for certification. (Bird Town certification is also available for schools, which is another reason to reach out to CB East and others.) Motion to approve by Don, seconded by Andrea and approved unanimously.

Reptile/amphibian crossing. Grant amount from The Heritage Conservancy is \$250K for the installation of proper culverts; right now, people are ushering the animals across roads. No out-of-pocket costs for the township, though there will be some maintenance, just as there is on Buckingham’s other culverts. Next step is to get Tyler Kovacs back to present to Board of Supervisors at a work session.

EAC Helpful Page. There were no suggested changes to the refreshed page; everyone felt that Maggie should remain the first-page messenger for 2024. The revamped page will be ready for posting as soon as photos are received from Maggie and Ruth.

Holicong Park Extension Meadow. The grant for meadow conversion of 2 acres in Holicong Park is a go after a delay. Jim reported that we should have all the information by the end of month regarding timing, who is doing what, etc.

Native Plant Sale. This year’s sale consists of 150 kits of six native plants each for \$10.00. All will be sold day-of (May 11, from 10-12 at Hansell Park Pavilion); there are no advance sales this year. Lisa Braud suggested the addition of “seed bomb” giveaways in envelopes. Next steps: Township to make copies of flyer. Diane volunteered to put flyer on NextDoor and Lisa Braud to put Jim in touch with someone from

The Bucks County Herald. Crew needed Wednesday, May 8th at 6:30 pm to make up the kits at Jim's house. Two to three volunteers needed, day of, to hand-out plants and take money. They should plan on being onsite no later than 9:30 a.m.

Proposed warehouse, stormwater and air quality. Visitor Marie Progin voiced concerns re stormwater management and the proposed warehouse--which is near her Plumsteadville home--and asked what regulations were in place to prevent runoff onto adjacent properties as well as to monitor/mitigate any air quality issues. Maggie said that once the design for the property is complete, it must go to the Conservation District for assessment. She further mentioned that Buckingham's stormwater restrictions are more stringent than the Commonwealth's, and that water must stay on the property. With respect to air quality, Jim mentioned that other townships have enacted anti-idling laws.

Low-volume gravel roads. Visitor Lisa Braud mentioned funding available through the BCCD for the upgrade of low-volume gravel roads. Lisa said she would get more information to the EAC so that Buckingham could target appropriate roads for improvement.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Strout
Member