

RADNOR TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Minutes of the 11/30/2021 Meeting

A meeting of the Radnor Township Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) was held at 7:00 pm on November 30, 2021 via “Zoom” online.

Those present were:

Ray Adams
Sara Pilling
Sid Singh
Margaret Reinhart
Lisa Hallowell

Invitee: Gretchen Groebel

Discussion

Following the approval of the minutes, Gretchen Groebel, Executive Director of the Radnor Conservancy, was introduced. Gretchen gave a presentation about “Birdtown”. Radnor is a Birdtown. Gretchen said there are many opportunities, and that they are trying to resurrect it. She questioned whether it is referenced on our township website. Birdtown presents best practices for yards and gardens. The website is birdtownpa.org. Gretchen will have more information within the next few months. She would like if the township would share some of this information. Sara proposed that the Scouts could have projects in conjunction with Birdtown.

We then discussed the proposed plastic bag ordinance. Lisa mentioned that she made some edits – one had already been incorporated. She questioned the existence of the township enforcement officer – it was changed to township official. She also said the ordinance looks good, and is pretty much line-by-line the same as Narberth’s ordinance. Ray made a motion to approve the language of the ordinance. The motion was unanimously approved.

We next reviewed the slides prepared by Donnelle and Sid which will be used when the ordinance is presented to the BOC. Changes included: writing out the name of the Environmental Advisory Council on the first slide, changing the heading of the third slide to Radnor Needs to Join Our Neighbors, eliminating the word ban on the fourth slide, and several other changes to the last slide. Sara emphasized that the township does not agree to the ordinance but agrees to send the ordinance to the township solicitor. Sid questioned whether we should just send the slides to the BOC, but the others agreed it should be sent with the ordinance to Ben and Bill. Also Lisa questioned whether we should have visuals for emphasis, but Sara said time is of the essence and it is best to keep it brief.

Ray presented what was discussed regarding the meeting among Lisa, Ray, Margie and Dr. Stevenson, the principal of Radnor Elementary School. Ray proposed a program for the 5th graders. For the time being, we would have to do a virtual presentation, with the hope that by Earth Day we could have something in person. The hope is that we could then target the Middle Schools, possibly with the Watershed program. Dr. Stevenson made a plug for the Sustainability

Manager for our township. Lisa mentioned that Radnor Elementary is a green school and their 20th anniversary is coming up.

Sara then presented an update on what the Green Team is doing. Sara mentioned that they were disappointed about the rejection of the Sustainability Manager position. Sara will be sending out the pledge to her list-serve, and is hoping to solicit more members of the Green Team. They are hoping to create several shovel-ready projects; an example is electric car charging stations. Small projects will be created at first because there is no money. Solarize Delco is another promotion. Sara will also be attending all Board of Health and Shade Tree meetings. They will also be speaking at many BOC meetings. A small group will be working with the Earth Leadership Conference at Radnor High School; they currently are working on a Styrofoam project. Regarding Shade Tree commission, Sara stated that permission is required for removing a large tree, but this is not always enforced. 187 trees are planned to be removed along the Radnor Trail, primarily ash trees which have the ash tree borer disease.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret Reinhart