



EAC Meeting Minutes  
3/8/24

### Call to Order

The March meeting of the EAC was called to order at 7:04pm

### Attendance

Those committee members in attendance were:

Barbara Mako, Carys Egan, Donna Delany, Kathy McDevitt, Rachel McKay.

Bill Dietrich, Chair of Park and Rec, in attendance

### Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

MOTION by Donna to approve the December minutes; second by Carys. The motion carries unanimously.

### Old Business

1. A Discussion of our visit with Dan Mummert, PA Game Commission, Dan Mummert
  - a. The PA Game Commission has funding to help species of concern in PA.
  - b. Beginning of March best time to mow is fighting invasives, rotate field mowing every year if invasives better controlled – as in don't mow every field every year.
  - c. We are in the top spot for a free purple martin condo and educational signage in 2025 by the pond in front of the township building
  - d. We will be in a top spot for a chimney swift tower IF we do a lawn to meadow conversion in Evans Park. Opalanie is another possibility. It would be a good Eagle Scout project.
  - e. Dana will help us connect with Mike Hogga re mowing
2. A Discussion of our Wild Tree Care event in Opalanie Park, March 3
  - a. There were 14 volunteers! The state of the tree tubes was poor. Voles had eaten all of the small trees and severely damaged the bigger trees. We decided to ask for a deer fenced area as part of the Opalanie Park plan. The tree tubes appear to be protecting the voles/rodents from the predators who would normally control them – fox, coyote, hawks, etc. This is the last year for the 10 Million Tree program. We need to request trees this spring and be ready to plant in the fall, so we need the deer fence installed quickly. Rachel asked for a depression to be created at the top of the hill to be a vernal pool to support amphibians, beneficial insects, and birds. She will get an exact description from John and Patty Werth.  
**Motion:** Donna made a motion to submit to the Supervisors and manager a map with the riparian buffer tree tube planting area outlined for deer fence installation and vernal pool, Rachel seconded, motion passed unanimously.  
**Motion:** Barbara made a motion to schedule our next Wild Tree Care event in Opalanie Park on April 6, Rain Date 7, 9am-11:30am. Carys seconded, motion carried unanimously
3. A Discussion of the Nature Book Club, Feb. 12
  - a. It was a resounding success. We will plan to schedule another one in the fall
  - b. Suggested – summer reading list – West Vincent Reads – people could choose the fall book – Carys will take the lead
4. A Discussion of the PA EAC Network Online Conference
  - a. Barbara reported that a lot of positive environmental activity is happening in PA. There were many interesting topics, such as battery recycling, deer control, native plantings, etc. We can watch the replays.

5. A Discussion of PA Natural Heritage Areas in West Vincent
  - a. Rachel is starting to receive information on the sensitive species involved. These areas should be considered when removing bamboo, doing work close to the road, etc.

#### **New Business**

1. Manager's Report – none
2. Subdivisions and Variance Requests
  - a. The minor subdivision application concerning a lot line change for Pothouse Kimberton LLC does not appear to create any new or different environmental concerns.
3. Meals and Medicines from the Landscape Workshop
  - a. **Motion** – Donna made a motion that Charlene offer a Meals and Medicines from the Landscape Event in the spring at Opalanie Park, Carys seconded, the motion passed unanimously.
4. Lawn to Meadow Conversion Demonstration Area
  - a. **Motion** – Carys made a motion that we send the Lawn to Meadow Conversion Proposal for Evans Park to the Supervisors and Manager, to be voted on at the next Supervisors' meeting, Barbara seconded, the motion carried unanimously. Barbara will attach a map to the written proposal. Bill Dietrich stated informally that the Park and Recreation Committee supports this initiative. He suggested we ask Darrin Groff what he thinks of using fire to prepare the ground. The trail map from 10 years ago may show the border with the church property. The program will use funding from the state DCNR lawn to meadow program. It will save the township money because in the future this area will not need to be mown. It will have stormwater management and biodiversity benefits for the community, as well as being beautiful and educational and inspirational.
  - b. Next month, we will write and vote on a motion to apply for the municipal grant through the state lawn to meadow conversion program.
5. Ludwig's Carnival
  - a. The township was offered a table to connect with residents at this summer's carnival. The EAC agreed this was a great opportunity to connect with residents. No one was sure of their summer plans, so we could not commit to manning the table at a specific time. We will revisit as summer gets closer.
6. Mt. Cuba Tour
  - a. **Motion** – Donna made a motion to plan an educational tour of the Mount Cuba Center for West Vincent residents and interested neighbors on Saturday, June 1, Carys seconded, the motion passed unanimously. Carys will take the lead. She will contact Mt. Cuba to arrange the tour and see if a rain date is possible. All attendees will pay their own way, so this will not require any township funds.
7. Bird Town
  - a. Jim Moffett may do a video demonstration of predator resistant bluebird box construction, and we could use this instruction to have a workshop. Jim does not want to lead a workshop. Rachel will write up a request for volunteers to do weekly bluebird box monitoring in Opalanie Park, and Donna will email to our volunteer group.
  - b. A woodcock was spotted in Opalanie Park!

Motion to Dismiss was made by Kathy at 8:51, Carys seconded, the motion passed unanimously.



Future Dates:

- Woodcock Walk – March 15, Rain Date 16, 6:45pm, Opalanie Park
- Wild Tree Care ,Opalanie Park, April 6, Rain Date 7, 9am-11:30am
- Tentative Mt. Cuba Tour, June 1

Respectfully Submitted, Donna Delany

