



EAC Meeting Minutes
12/5/24

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:04pm

Committee Attendance

Those committee members in attendance were:

Barbara Mako, Carys Egan, Charlene Briggs, Donna Delany, Drew Wallace, Rachel McKay

Kathy McDevitt was on speakerphone due to illness

Dana Alan, Supervisor Liaison

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

MOTION by Donna to approve the Nov. minutes; second by Charlene. The motion carries unanimously.

Manager's Report – none

Subdivision/Variance Applications –

- There was concern expressed that the EAC was not able to meet at our scheduled time before the Zoning Hearing Board session. If a time scenario like this happens again, we will work to meet with the township manager to review the plans outside of a meeting, and then submit our comments to the manager. If there is significant environmental impact anticipated, we will contact the BOS to alert them. A township lawyer or engineer might be needed to define the intent of the ordinance and the impact of the variance/subdivision.

New Business

- Our January meeting date is moved to Jan. 9, due to the township reorganization meeting being on Jan. 6.
- The EAC wishes to express our gratitude to the Herb Society of America for their donation of \$200. We signed a thank you card to mail to them.
- North Coventry Light Pollution talk – we are still waiting for that to be posted on their website.
- Tree Bank Ordinance –
 - We discussed the Lower Makefield Township's Tree Bank Ordinance. Rachel volunteered to search our ordinances for the word 'tree', 'woodland', 'forest', so we can review the current protections that trees have in West Vincent.
 - Lower Makefield Township's Tree Bank Ordinance
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1e64LRsYo5Hit8taC8jH-8f-2ELsF9AzL/edit>
- Dame Juliana – Drew reports that Dame Juliana has money to purchase plant materials to shade water and keep it cooler for fish and all water inhabitants. He suggested that we may want to plant the bank of the pond at Griffith pond. We could even use this site for our demonstration on propagation using live stakes – people could learn and plant. Also, Carys suggested we create a social media post to see if any property owners with streams would like plants. Donna volunteered to create the post and run it by the group before posting. Late winter would be a good time to post.
- Nature Club – due to family issues, we were not able to hold our Opalanie Nature Club event. We hope to care for the tree planting again in 2025

- Drew volunteered to remove the invasive pear trees located at the corner of Rt. 401 and Windgate Drive, if the township provided the equipment. We could plant grass seed and establish lawn, in the hopes of removing invasives and participating in a state or county lawn-to-meadow conversion program.
 - Lawn To Meadow
 - We reviewed the Chester County Meadow email and Drew is taking the lead on applying to be part of the county program.
 - The date was set for the Lansdale EAC meadow Zoom – Feb. 6.
 - Botanical Sanctuary – we received our sign and the fence is being installed next week! Planting will need to wait for spring.
 - Pollinator Pitstop Program – Donna made a motion to name Wild Bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*) the Pollinator Pitstop Plant of the 2025; Carys seconded, the motion passed unanimously. The seeds can be sown in March, so we can have a seed giveaway/milk jug sowing in March. We need to have seeds by March. We may grow plugs to give away at Community Day or purchase wholesale plugs.
 - Bird Town
 - Drew will create a materials list for our chimney swift tower! We need to find out when chimney swift scouts are due to arrive in our area in the spring, so we know when the tower needs to be installed and ready for the birds. Drew will create a materials list.
NOTE – according to all the sources Donna could find, chimney swifts are due late March at the earliest, so the tower should be installed in early to mid-March.
 - Open space – Historically, our township has purchased land for the purpose of creating parks. Our committee discussed if it would be prudent for the sustainability of our community for the township to purchase wooded lots to preserve them. Wooded lots benefit the community by cleaning our air and water; stormwater management and aquifer recharge; sequestering carbon; temperature mitigation; wildlife and biodiversity support; and public viewsheds. Step 1 – Donna will find the legal definition of “Public Access.”

Motion to Dismiss was made by Donna at 8:52, Rachel seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Future Dates

Jan. 9, 7pm – First EAC meeting of 2025

Jan. 14, 7pm – First ChesCo EAC/Sustainability meeting - Zoom

Jan. 27 – 7pm - First Trail Committee meeting

February 6 – Lansdale EAC Zoom with WV EAC to discuss what they learned about meadow installations

Elementary School Earth Day – to be scheduled

April 26 – Shredding Event

May 3, Community Day, Opalanie Park

Tentative 2025 Event Schedule

- February – winter sowing seed giveaway – Feb. or when appropriate for the plant we choose
- Late Winter – social media post to see if landowners with a stream would like plant material
- March – good time for Laura Cruz talk as a special presentation, giveaway *Monarda fistulosa* seeds for milk jug sowing



- March – live stake propagation clinic at Griffith Farm with planting the pond border to shade the water
- March – milk jug seed giveaway Wild Bergamot
- Early to mid-March – chimney swift tower installation
- May – Medicinal plants at Opanie Botanical Sanctuary
- April 26 – we could join the shredding event with our own project – plant giveaway?
- May 3 – Wild Bergamot plant giveaway at Community Day
- July – Healthy Yard Garden Tour
- Possible other presentations – rain gardens/stormwater mgmt; meadows by Miller Road resident or Refugia, the company that installed the Miller Road meadow; riparian buffer talk
- Healthy Yard Activities
- Bird Walks
- Nature Club activities, invasive removal, tree tube care,

Respectfully Submitted, Donna Delany

