



**EAC Meeting Minutes
2/6/2025**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm

Committee Attendance

Those committee members in attendance were:

Barbara Mako, Donna Delany, Carys Egan, Rachel McKay, Sean Clark
Dana Alan, Supervisor Liaison

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

MOTION by Donna to approve the Jan. minutes; second by Rachel. The motion carries unanimously.

Manager's Report – none

Subdivision/Variance Applications – 1414 Birchrun LLC Minor Subdivision – nothing new

Zoom Presentation by Lansdale EAC member Robert Gladfelter, a landscape architect, on their lawn-to-meadow conversion program. They are available for advice as we move forward.

New Business

- Stroud Winter Salt Watch – this program was designed to test waterways all across southern Chester County in a one day snapshot for salt contamination of streams. 3 members of the EAC (Donna, Sean, Rachel), 1 member of the Sustainability Committee (Tom Kalusky), and resident Carl Manthey participated by sampling water from 4 spots in the Pickering Creek on Jan. 31. They had previously identified these spots and recorded the GPS coordinates. There will be a talk reviewing the results. A spreadsheet with the salt concentrations of all of the Pickering samples was provided to the team. 3 of the West Vincent samples had the lowest amounts of salt in the Pickering study. One spot, off of Fellowship Road, had a higher salt concentration. It was discussed that we should let the HOA of this small development know that they may have a large salt run off; although the salt could be coming mostly from Fellowship Road or TC Energy.
- Nature Tenders
 - We are all set for our Live Stake Planting Event. Donna will post the event and alert the township office.
 - Chester County Lawn to Meadow conversion – the flags to mark the pipeline setbacks in Evans Park are due to be finished being placed tomorrow. As soon as they are in place, Donna will let the county know, so they can plot the easements on a map and determine how much land would be left for meadow conversion.
- Botanical Sanctuary – fence and gate installed – waiting for spring planting!
- Healthy Yard
 - No new people completed the survey, as expected in January
 - PECO comes to our township every 4 years to trim trees that threaten the powerlines. Some of us believe that in the past, they have also used herbicide, although they verbally assured our manager that there was no spraying this year. We discussed that it would be helpful for residents to know their rights as far as PECO cutting and spraying are concerned. Donna will investigate whether a public service announcement already exists for this.

- Donna will investigate where any township has created an ordinance that prevents herbicide applications by outside agencies such as Peco and Penn Dot or at least requires notification of the township manager and residents with chemical sensitivities
 - There is an upcoming presentation for HOAs about Green Infrastructure and Landscaping. We discussed seeking a HOA contact at each development in our township
 - First, make a list of all developments
 - Second, see if we know someone in each development already
 - Third, create a contact list and create and maintain a relationship with each development
 - Carys would like to plan a visit to Mt. Cuba Center when the trillium are in bloom
- Pollinator Pitstop Program
 - Motion- Donna made a motion to host talk and Wild Bergamot seed giveaway on March 11 at 7pm at Township Building by Laura Cruz, The Art of Gardening With Native Perennials, Carys seconded, carried unanimously
 - Donna purchased 80,000 SE PA ecotype Wild Bergamot seeds and will donate to township
 - Donna made a motion to purchase 200 SE PA ecotype Wild Bergamot plugs to give away to WV residents from Archewild Nursery. Sean seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
 - We agreed we would meet before the pollinator talk to put seeds in envelopes. Donna will ask people to save envelopes for us.
- Birdtown
 - Annual PA Bird Town report completed by Rachel and Donna and sent in
 - If the weather is good the weekend of Feb. 15-16, we could have an informal gathering for the Great Backyard Bird Count
 - Rachel would like to pursue creating backpacks for birders to lend out at the Henrietta Hankin Library. Needs – backpacks, binoculars, info about bird id. Rachel is collecting ideas.
 - We received a report that bird houses in Evans Park, which were installed by a Boy Scout, need repairs. Will ask Drew to take a look.
- Stormwater Management
 - Donna made a motion that we host a talk on rain gardens by resident Paul Rossone on a free calendar date in April, Rachel seconded, the motion passed unanimously
 - Goal of seeing a new Pollinator Pitstop in Opalanie Park near the entrance sign to be designed by EAC and maintained by township gardener – we requested one formally in Oct., 2024.
- Birdtown
 - Woodcock Walk – Donna made a motion that the EAC host a woodcock walk in Opalanie Park on Feb. 28/rain date March 1 @ 30 min before sunset to be led by Rachel, Rachel seconded, passed unanimously. Donna will write announcement and publicize
 - We will publicize the Great Backyard Bird Count Feb 14-17
 - Rachel and Donna will complete the Bird Town annual report
 - Donna will check with Game Commission about Purple Martin condo and Chimney Swift tower
- Stormwater Management
 - Donna will look into a raingarden presentation for April
- Tree Protections discussion postponed until next month
- Open Space
 - We discussed the idea of an Open Space Plan for the township that would help to guide Open Space Goals, such as sustainability.
- North Coventry Light Pollution talk



- <https://northcoventrytownship.com/eac-presents-the-environmental-impact-of-light-pollution/> - The North Coventry presentation was thorough and very interesting. Donna will contact their speaker and see if she will give a presentation for WV.
- Master Naturalist Insect Presentations
 - Carl Manthey proposed that, to meet the requirements of his Master Naturalist certification program, he host 3 events this year on beneficial insects through our EAC – one on fireflies; one on native bees; and one on macroinvertebrates. The events would take place on township land. The EAC wholeheartedly embraced the idea. We will support Carl’s project.
- Ken Alan reported that Park & Rec is hosting a hike in Opalanie Park on March 30 from 9-11:30am.

Motion to Dismiss was made by Barbara at 8:45, Sean seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Future Dates

Feb. 14-17 - Great Backyard Bird Count

Feb 28 – Woodcock Walk – Opalanie Park, 30 minutes before sunset – March 1 rain date

March 8 – Evans Park Pond South side - Live Stake Propagation Demonstration and Riparian Buffer Planting

March 11 - Pollinator Pitstop Garden Talk - The art of gardening with native perennials, by Laura Cruz talk and wild bergamot seed giveaway, Township Building, 7pm

March 30 -9-11:30am @ Opalanie Park – Get To Know Your Park Hike

Elementary School Earth Day – to be scheduled – mosquito dunks?

April 26 – Shredding Event

Tentative 2025 Event Schedule

- Late Winter – social media post to see if landowners with a stream would like plant material
- Early to mid-March – chimney swift tower installation
- April 26 – we could join the shredding event with our own project – plant giveaway?
- April – rain garden presentation
- May – Wild Bergamot plant giveaway
- May – Medicinal plants at Opalanie Botanical Sanctuary
- July – Healthy Yard Garden Tour
- Possible other presentations – meadows by Miller Road resident or Refugia, the company that installed the Miller Road meadow; riparian buffer talk
- Healthy Yard Activities
- Bird Walks
- Nature Tenders activities: invasive removal, tree tube care, invasive foraging

Respectfully Submitted, Donna Delany

