

Swarthmore Environmental Advisory Council
MEETING MINUTES
November 24, 2015

In Attendance: Susan Kelly, Chair; Members: Douglas Hasbrouck, Nancy English, and Fintan McHugh. Borough Council member Lauren McKenney. A quorum was present.

The September and October 2015 minutes were approved as presented.

Meeting began at 7:35

Old Business:

Growing Green Grant

Susan provided the status of the Growing Greener planning grant. The grant has been approved, and is currently being implemented through outreach to surrounding property owners. Borough Manager Jane Billings drafted a letter, a project description, and a landowner letter of commitment, which the landowners whose properties are adjacent to the swim club property will be asked to sign, allowing surveyors to enter the properties. The packet of documents will be hand-delivered to seven homeowners along Riverview Road whose properties are adjacent to the Swim Club property. The purpose of this grant is to improve water quality on Little Crum Creek and its tributaries. Susan delivered the letter to six of the seven surrounding property owners, five of whom have now signed the landowner letter of commitment. The sixth property is being sold on December 12, 2015, and the prospective new owner has been contacted. The seventh property owner did not comment favorably on signing the letter. It is unclear whether he understood the very limited scope of the letter, as it merely requests temporary access to the rear of the Swim Club property for surveying purposes. No improvements or work is anticipated to be conducted on any of these properties.

AFewSteps No report was given.

New Business

Final Land Development Plan for Whittier Place (a/k/a Whittier Space) at Swarthmore College.

The Planning Commission has recommended final approval of the final land development plans, including the storm water plans. The plans will be presented to Borough Council at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

EAC Membership

The members discussed how certain members' terms are expiring, creating the need for new members to be recruited. Jon Penders' term is ending on both the EAC and Planning Commission, but the EAC anticipates that he will sign on for another three years. Doug Hasbrouck is moving to Media and will resign from the EAC once his property in the Borough is sold. Thurm Brendlinger will also be rolling off as his term expires. Susan brought up that she would ask Phil Coleman if any members of AFewSteps would be interested in serving on the EAC or attend EAC meetings to report on the activity of AFewSteps, if a single individual does not have the time available to commit as a full-time EAC member. It was also discussed how a Swarthmore College

representative is desired to serve on the EAC, and Susan mentioned that she would talk to Joy Charleton at the College about potential candidates. The Swarthmore Street Tree Committee and the Scott Arboretum were also mentioned as groups to mine for potential EAC members.

Community involvement and ownership of Little Crum Creek Park was also discussed. Members were in agreement that recruiting is needed for individuals to plan and host community events at the park, in order to spurn interest in park maintenance.

The next calendar meeting date would be December 22nd, and may be cancelled due to lack of agenda items, but it was discussed how January 26th, 2016, would be the next opportunity for a planning meeting for the EAC. In order to ensure that we have a quorum at all meetings, the different weekdays were discussed in terms of calendar coordination, with the potential of moving the meetings from Tuesday to Mondays or Wednesdays.

Adjourned 8:40 pm

Minutes submitted by Fintan McHugh