

## **Swarthmore Environmental Advisory Council**

### **Minutes, October 27, 2015**

**Present:** Susan Kelly, Chair; members Tracy Bouvette and Jon Penders; Lauren McKinney, Borough Council Liaison, and Jane Billings, Borough Manager.

Minutes from the September meeting were not approved due to lack of a quorum.

**Growing Greener Planning Grant:** Details are being finalized with the contractors who will be carrying out the work, the borough, and the grant administrator, the DEP. One of the final steps to be completed is obtaining signatures from the seven homeowners whose properties adjoin the swim club property, which is the focus of the grant. Jane Billings discussed the need to provide those homeowners with a description of the project and a letter discussing the request for access to support Little Crum Creek Restoration. Also included in the packet would be a landowner letter of commitment for each landowner to sign. Jane has agreed to provide the template for this information, Tracy will massage the letter, and Susan will talk with each of the homeowners, hand delivering the packet, and hopefully all homeowners will sign, which will allow the contractors access to their properties (i.e., purposes of surveying). This will be done as soon as possible. All of this work so far will be part of the in-kind services provided from the borough.

**Little Crum Creek Park Workday:** Several members of the EAC and a few residents of the borough worked in the park on October 10, removing invasive vines along the fence that separates the central part of the park from residents whose backyards abut the park, and rebuilding the path that originates just below the gazebo and across the meadow to the wetland. Woodchips were provided by the Swarthmore Public Works Department. The workday had been coordinated previously with the local Boy Scout troop to fulfill their community service badges; unfortunately, there was no representation from the troop.

**AFewSteps:** Entries for the 2015 photography contest, Water, Water Everywhere, sponsored by AFewSteps, are in and can be voted on online. The reception for people submitting the photos is November 11, in Borough Hall.

**Swarthmore College Land Development for NPPR Resident Hall:** Jon Penders, Chair of the Planning Commission as well as an EAC member, presented an overview of the PC's comments of the preliminary plan, which was not approved at its recent meeting. Jon explained that the borough engineer had submitted an extensive document (multipage) with detailed comments concerning the plan and the numerous changes needed to be completed to receive approval. The College has agreed to respond to the engineer's comments and they will return with a revised preliminary plan in December. Relative to the responsibility of the EAC, there was no landscape plan included in the development plan; therefore, when the next preliminary plan is submitted, hopefully that part of the plan will be included and we can review it, as relates to our responsibility.

The meeting adjourned shortly before 9 pm.

Susan Kelly, Recording Secretary

**Upcoming EAC meeting:** November 24, 2015, 7:30 pm in the Community Room.