

Swarthmore Environmental Advisory Council
MEETING MINUTES
October 25, 2016

In Attendance: Susan Kelly, Chair; members Doug Hasbrouck, Tracy Bouvette, and Jon Penders; associate members Phil Coleman and Melissa Tier; Lauren McKinney, representative of Borough Council.

Minutes for the July, August, and September 2016 meetings were approved as submitted.

Discussion of Attendance: Members were strongly encouraged to be regular in their attendance at meetings, noting that there have been difficulties in meeting quorum at recent meetings.

Mariner 2 Pipeline Resolution:

Eve Miari, representative from the Middletown Coalition for Community Safety, joined the group via teleconference for a lengthy discussion of the text of a proposed resolution of concern by Borough Council regarding concerns about the proposed liquefied gas pipeline that will run through Delaware County to Marcus Hook, PA. The potential environmental and public health and safety concerns were a focal point for the discussion.

The key points identified included:

- an extension to the deadline for public comments
- a public meeting in Delaware County and a more transparent process
- concerns for public safety.

Tracy Bouvette had concerns about the environmental regulatory process in Pennsylvania, which he feels need to be consistently and better funded by the State to provide oversight. An expression of concern by the Borough Council could be important in giving State regulators a mandate to regulate industry more effectively.

The Council approved the resolution pending some revision of the language that was executed prior to its delivery to Borough Council.

A Few Steps

The organization has conducted student training for the Swarthmore College Green Advisors. They are pitching a sustainability coaching program to residents.

Little Crum Creek Park

A very successful work day was held on Saturday October 15th; unfortunately a subsequent one was rained out last week. The mothers of some 8th grade boys who need community service hours have suggested having a work day on Election Day (Tuesday, 11/8/16) since it is a school holiday. Susan Kelly will provide direction for the group and have mulch delivered so weeding and mulching of trees can be completed; other volunteers are not needed.

Chester, Ridley, Crum Creek Watersheds Association

Tracy Bouvette, who is the CRCWA Board chair, reported that the organization is going through some change as part of a staff transition. They want to be a resource for local groups like the E.A.C.s. They currently have 234 members, and 700-1000 volunteers help with stream clean-ups and tree planting/maintenance annually.

Swarthmore College Events

Melissa Tier reported that Swarthmore College has 10 "Sustainability Research Fellows" this year who are examining various ideas for campus sustainability. Upcoming campus events include:

- Nov. 30 – panel discussion about the U.S. environmental delegation going to the UN conference in Morocco.

- Dec. 7 – Presentation by the Sustainability Fellows.
- Jan. 6 – Carbon pricing workshop focused on educational institutions.

Delaware County Conservation District (DCCD) Funding Opportunity

Tracy Bouvette reported that the DCCD has a mini-grant program that allows local organizations to apply for up to \$500. Doug Hasbrouck agreed to draft a grant application for Little Crum Creek Park to support a volunteer effort for plantings that would help in retaining the stream bank and/or nearby slopes that are threatened by erosion.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Hasbrouck