

Upper Providence Township Environmental Commission (EC) Meeting

Minutes for August 17, 2023 Meeting

In-person at the Township Building and available concurrently online.

1. Roll Call

In attendance were Trevor Serine, Peter Quagliariello, Sarah Egan, Kristin Giambra
Additional Attendee(s): Mariele

2. Minutes

Minutes from the July 2023 meeting were unanimously approved.

3. Public Forum

Marion Yaglinski at 1248 Hunt Club Ln., Media, 19063: on the topic of mosquito spraying – there are eight companies soliciting in Media Borough and Upper Providence; aggressive and misrepresenting their products and safety; mosquito spraying is impacting biodiversity in our area; many of the companies do not have permits

Mariele: The Township is aware that companies are going around – they must have a permit; we are asking residents to ask to see the permit and call the police if they do not have a permit. The township is not permitted to deny permits to businesses unless their business is against ordinance.

Local Girl Scout Troop 53383 – Rose Tree, Media, Upper Providence, Swarthmore: Junior Girl Scouts are applying for a bronze award for pollinator gardens. The girls presented a blueprint for a pollinator garden, as well as the growing conditions and best native flowers for the space – milkweed, goldenrod, purple coneflowers, etc. They learned about pollinator gardens through their elementary school (Media Elementary) which planned a garden at the school last year; there is also a pollinator garden close to where they have their meetings. The Green Wagon Project through Transition Town Media has provided free native pollinator plants; they are hoping to have plants donated from local resources as well, and are working with Wolff's Apple House. The troop plans to keep the garden going through regular maintenance (which they can earn badges for), and as they move up a level, they will train the younger level. Timeline: they plan to plant in the fall and to incorporate a water feature, and a bee house.

4. Old Business/Ongoing Projects

Grant Updates

- Keystone 10 Million Trees – Fall planning: coordinating with Delaware County Conservation District; shipping date prior to UPT Community Day (9/23)
- Micro-grants: signage, pollinator gardens; suggestion to Girl Scout Group to apply to the micro grant for pollinator garden and/or signage
- Fire Company rain garden: team needed to implement, still under coordination

Certifications and Awards

- Bird Town PA: evaluating for fall, looking for community volunteers
- Bee City: evaluating for fall, looking for community volunteers

Roche/Cherry St. Park Planting

- Pollinator gardens – updates from parks grant forthcoming

Sustainability Task Force

- Suggestion to write a report to show progress.

Zero Waste:

- Plastic single use bag restriction - Plans for township to send out a survey to both residents and small businesses soon.

Trash/Recycling:

- Composting / Recycling – ongoing education efforts. Sustainability Taskforce is working on this

5. New Business

- Monsanto Settlement Fund- Neighboring boroughs have received settlement check, waiting on UPT update from Township Manager.
- Community Day Planning: Trevor to submit vendor form; Environmental Commission will have a table. Recommendation to include recycling and composting in addition to trash at Community Day.

6. Other Business

- Kudzu Vine – take pictures, note locations, share with township; private property owners should be informed, township to address kudzu on township land
- Absentee member – motion to remove/replace a current member must be placed on meeting agenda; Township Manager to email Environmental Commission with update.
- Bee City USA, Bird Town – schedule meeting to discuss and form a group of volunteers from the Delco Birding group potentially; look at examples from neighboring townships.
- Community Day Planning – vendor form needs to be filled out; trees to be ordered prior to Community Day
- Absentee member – resolution submitted to Council

7. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Pete, seconded by Trevor – all approved. Meeting closed 8:16 PM