

# EAC Meeting Minutes

February 22<sup>nd</sup> 2023 7 PM

Free Library of Springfield Township

## Attendees

- Stephen Heverin, Brandon Ford, Joy Bergey, Pat Hynes, Richard Metz, Zeta Cross, Peter Wilson

## Guests

- Sophie, Ceila, Anna, Erin, x Fox, Chris Weth, Commissioner Ratsavong

## Minutes

- WELCOME TO MEMBERS & GUESTS
- ATTENDANCE & APPROVAL OF MINUTES - approved, if there are any corrections please let us know.
- GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT/OPEN FORUM
- COMMUNICATION/OUTREACH – Review any communications received by or disseminated from the EAC
- New business - Stephen brought forward concerns from residents who reached out to him about not being able to find information easily on the township or library websites about the Techno trash cans at the library. Brandon would work with the library to cross reference the information to make it more easily accessible to residents. Also let Chris know to publish information via our EAC page again about the Techno trash can.
- PRESENTATIONS - Springfield Township High School Sustainability Club
  - Ceila (School Sustainability) - plastic bag collection; NexTrex - collection points and gathering them for drop off. 500 lbs of plastics get turned into a bench.
    - Having a location at the library. <https://nextrex.com/>
    - Plastic Bag Ban survey in the High School - approved - went out over 400 responses (approx ~700 students school population).
    - Connected w/ Philly School district sustainability person to discuss what they are doing for addressing food waste in schools.
  - Members of the High School Sustainability Club will be sharing their goals and plans for the rest of 2023.
  - Explore opportunities to support the Sustainability Club and promote engagement.
- OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

- RENEWABLE SPRINGFIELD – supporting the Township’s transition to 100% clean energy by 2035
  - Municipal Buildings & Fleet Transition - Richard to send suggestions for heat pumps/air handlers
  - Electrification of Landscaping Equipment - No update; Commissioner Maxwell works in another borough for their public works and they are willing to share what they have found with their investigation for taking their landscaping to all electric.
  
- NATIVE HABITAT SPRINGFIELD – advocating the use of native plants and sustainable landscaping
  - Birdtown Update & Future Programming - - moving forward to get this in place. There is a requirement for annual update to Birdtown. Zeta to provide Birdtown report - will get it to Patrick and Brandon to get the first annual report in.
  - Native Plant Workshop (March) & Planning the Native Plant Sale (May) - need letter to notify board of workshop. It would also to ask BoC continued support in doing the native plant sale. Look to order more 300 plants for this year.
  - Motion to authorize Letter to BOC for Plant Sale Support & Notice of Plant Wksp. - motion and unanimous approval to send the letter. Looking for limited participation this year 25. Motion made and passed to send the letter to the commissioners.
  - No Mow May Discussion
    - Motion to authorize Request to BOC for limited No Mow May Implementation ZERO WASTE SPRINGFIELD – supporting the Township’s transition to 100% clean energy by 2035.
  - New Recycling Brochure Deployment
  - Plastic Bag Ban Update
  - Muni-municipal Food Composting - several townships/municipalities meet regularly to discuss this. Media already has this. There is a free webinar on this Feb 28th. Only 1 permitted facility in Montgomery county that is accepting compost.
  
- Personal Sustainability presentation - Stephen - Targeting June from outline that was circulated and commented upon.
  
- COLLABORATIONS – working with other organizations in the community to promote sustainability
  - Meetings with STSD Administration Update
  - EAC Library Booklist for April 2023

- Include blurb to library on the EAC and a QR code
- Trail Plan & Rec Center Plan Updates - Next public meeting is March 13th at the Township building 7pm. This will lead to the approval and publishing of the draft for public comment.
- Media - library needs more content!
- TOWNSHIP UPDATE/QUESTIONS
  - Sat. Stormwater workshop - 9-12, lead by a number of professionals. Will be recorded. - <https://www.springfieldmontco.org/education>
  - Wissahickon Creek Clean-up - scheduled for Sat. April 29th at 9 AM.
  - Wissahickon coalition - several municipalities in them to approach the Wissahickon water quality as a group to meet EPA requirements to get the creek in compliance.
  - Burton road - authorized contract to perform the flood mitigation project. Starts next week and runs through mid-April.
- GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT/OPEN FORUM
  - Pat - would like to see any native planting efforts directed to Mermaid park. -> make this an agenda item for March.
  - Stephen/Rich - look to bring a recommendation for a change in trash bags used in the township buildings to the compostable bags.