

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
CONSERVANCY BOARD MEETING
February 8, 2012
7:00 P.M.**

The East Goshen Township Conservancy Board met for their regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, February 8, 2012, at the East Goshen Township Building. Board members present were: Chairman Sandra Snyder, Bryan Del Monte, Scott Sanders, Ginnie Newlin, Adam Knox, and Walter Wujcik. Others present: Erich Meyer

1. CALL TO ORDER

Sandra called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Chairman noted that the minutes of the January 11, 2012 were approved.

3. CHAIRMANS REPORT

A. The Township is holding a Neighborhood University for residents who want to learn more about the township. Last Thursday was the first session where they were introduced to the supervisors and staff. This Thursday they will learn about the ABCs, police and fire departments. Sandy will give a presentation for the Conservancy Board and asked for input from the other members:

1. Spring planting in April needs volunteers
2. Bryan will email photos to Mark Gordon
3. Tree ordinance, list of recommended plants and invasives
4. Goals for 2012
5. Conservancy Board works with the Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission reviewing development plans to be sure proper plants and trees will be used.

4. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Name for Reforested Area – Clymer is the person that the Historical Commission suggested. He lived in the area and signed the Constitution. Ginnie wants to know who originally owned Applebrook. It was suggested that she contact Ed Lendrat who does all of the property research for the Historical Commission.
- B. Newsletter – Scott has prepared the article on the Ash Tree Borer.
- C. Scott reported that his presentation at the West Goshen Township Building about the ash tree borer went very well. Sandy attended. He feels that most people don't know if they have an ash tree. The state released some insects in the middle of the state that kill the borer. If they do aerial spraying, it is non-selective and will kill the insects that kill the borer. The Borer was first discovered in Michigan and Southern Canada in 2002 so it is fairly new to the US.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Scott mentioned that when he was at the West Goshen Township building, there was another meeting being held where they were discussing the development of the Jerrochian property. They are going to drill through the serpentine rock.
- B. Ginnie reported that she attended a conference on January 27, 2012 about "Wildlife in Your Backyard". It was very good. She heard about:
 1. Barn owls which will nest in meadows with other small birds
 2. Small brown bats are dying from white nose disease. This was brought from Europe where the bats are immune to this disease. Scientists are looking for a

cure. Because the bats are so important to farmers (they eat lots of insects), their loss will cost about \$3 billion/year.

3. Bat houses are better than caves if you can lure them to the house.
4. When cattails overtake a pond, they do not provide a good habitat. The 3 ponds in Supplee Valley are full of cattails. Adam feels they should be thinned out. Ginnie would like to get an opinion from someone like Bruce Foreacre. Bryan mentioned that Mark Miller has voiced concern.
5. When restoring areas, leave dead trees which provide a habitat. Seeps, which are small rivulets of water, should be preserved. There are some in Applebrook. Warm and cool weather grasses should be used in a meadow because they take over at different times of the year. Ginnie has a list of grasses.

C. Conferences:

1. Bryan reported that the CRC Nature Talk on February 12 is full
2. There is an EAC conference in Pottstown on March 3 & 4. Walter and Sandy are going on March 3. Bryan and Ginnie are going on March 4th.
3. Bryan mentioned that there is a Fresh Water Muscles training course at the Marple-Newtown High School on May 12th. These muscles can grow in creeks.
4. The Southeast Assoc. of Conservation Districts will hold a course all day March 21 at Villanova on permitting for riparian buffers.

6. **SUBDIVISION/LAND DEVELOPMENT/LANDSCAPE PLAN REVIEW**

- A. None

7. **BOARD MEMBER CONCERNS/COMMENTS**

- A. Bryan spoke to Ben Rohrbeck about planting an American Chestnut Tree. There is a lottery where you can register for this tree and may win one. Bryan will put his name in and will speak to Ben about a location for the tree.
- B. When the Board discussed Constant Contact as a way of communicating, they also discussed putting an FAQ page on the township website giving information on basic conservation topics.

8. **LIAISON REPORTS**

- A. Board of Supervisors – Sandy reported that the board approved the agreement with Liberty Tower for the cell tower.
- B. Historic Commission – Bryan reported that they are updating the signs at Historic Goshenville. They would like the Conservancy Board to take a look at the sign at the boardwalk by the Plank House. It needs to be replaced.
The Conservancy Board discussed different types of signs but needs to know what the Historic Commission would like to have there. Bryan will ask.

9. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- A. Erich mentioned that the area near the new bridge in Applebrook looks bad. Bryan commented that the orange fence has been restaked. Erich pointed out that the mulch is still not done and they should check the mulch to be sure it is still good. Ginnie wondered how long the fence will be needed there.
- B. Erich found out that the owner of the Chamber building in Applebrook was Garrett who owned 250 acres.
- C. Erich is taking a Natural Lands Trust course called “Force of Nature” and pointed out where he is in the group photo in the magazine.

10. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- A. Sandy had a brochure about a conservation planning trailer that provides all the tools needed for conservation projects. Membership is \$60/year. This will be discussed at the March meeting.
- B. Sandy had information for the annual membership to PEC. The board agreed to pay \$50 for this membership, which does provide discounts for conferences that the board members attend.

11. **ADJOURNMENT** - There being no further business, Scott made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Walter seconded the motion. There was no discussion or public comment. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Kiefer
Recording Secretary