

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP  
CONSERVANCY BOARD MEETING  
November 13, 2013  
7:00 P.M.**

The East Goshen Township Conservancy Board met for their regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, November 13, 2013 at the East Goshen Township Building. Board members present were: Chairman Sandra Snyder, Scott Sanders, Virginia Newlin Bryan Del Monte, and Rachael Burgos. Others present were: Janet Emanuel, Township Supervisor, Judy Schafer, Historical Commission member, and Bill Egan, resident.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Sandy Snyder called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Chairman led the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence to remember our troops and first responders.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Chairman noted that the minutes of the October 9, 2013 meeting were approved as corrected.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Planting on November 16 – Ginnie walked the area on E. Boot Road across from Bellingham with Mark Miller and they selected the spot for the planting. Mark will have the grass mowed before Saturday. Ginnie will put the flags in for the planting. Ginnie is very pleased with the plants. Bryan gave her his recommendation for locations to plant the 5 bald cypress trees. Sandy commented that Erich Meyer will dig the holes.

Ginnie mentioned that Woodlawn Nursery gave her a good price (about \$300 each) to plant red bud and/or serviceberry along Boot Road under the dogwood trees. These plants will grow with black walnut trees.

Ginnie mentioned that, at the Board of Supervisors meeting, Kathryn Yahraes, Historical Commission member, thought the Conservancy Board planting was behind the Plank House. This planting was not in the historic area. At some point Sandy feels the Conservancy Board may plant between the Plank House and the parking lot. Judy asked Ginnie to suggest some trees to plant at the Plank House. Ginnie suggested fruit and/or nut trees, which would be what the people of the revolutionary era would have planted.

Ginnie asked Sandy to notify the township about the planting which will start at 9:00 am. Only 3 CB members can come. Volunteers are needed.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Comprehensive Plan Task Force Update – Sandy reported that she reviewed the ideas of the Conservancy Board about natural resources with the task force. The draft of Chapter 4, Natural Resources, was given to the CB members. Sandy asked everyone to review it and bring their comments to the December meeting. Janet pointed out that this chapter is very preliminary because the township is waiting to have the meeting with PA representatives about the status of the creeks.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Sandy reviewed the letters from the Township regarding subdivisions at 1551 Colonial Lane, and 1637 Manley Road. Scott mentioned that the Board was pleased to be included in the early planning for 1551 Colonial Lane. Sandy will ask Mark Gordon to be sure to include the CB in the planning for 1637 Manley.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Sandy reviewed the grant information the CB was given. The Township does not have a grant writer. Bryan suggested referring to the report the Natural Lands Trust prepared about Applebrook. Sandy will start to work on this. The deadline is December 31, 2013.

## **BOARD MEMBER CONCERNS**

Ginnie mentioned that the Board of Supervisors showed her the kind of sign they want used at Clymer's Wood. Sandy will get a copy of it for the Conservancy Board to see and approve.

Bryan read the County Wide Act 167, Stormwater Management Ordinance that was reviewed at the Planning Commission meeting. In Part 1, page 23 he found the following possible definition for woods: "Any land area of at least one-quarter (0.25) acre with a natural or naturalized ground cover (excluding manicured turf grass) and that has an average density of two (2) or more viable trees per one thousand five hundred (1,500) square feet with a DBH of six (6) inches or greater. The land area to be considered Woods shall be measured from the outer drip lines of the outer trees." He feels this should be considered for a woods definition in the Township ordinance.

Bryan received the newsletter "The Leaflet" from Willistown Trust. It contains an article about the Ashbridge Preserve. He was going to write an article about this, but will contact Willistown to ask permission to use their article instead.

Bryan had an article entitled "Trees That Put Green in Your Pocket" from the Wall Street Journal about the value of street trees. Scott commented that the Township should not plant just one type of tree. They should mix them and use trees that will survive in the area where they are being planted. Janet mentioned that in Marydell, many of the street trees died. Some were in wet areas, etc. She agrees but it may not be viable unless the CB is consulted.

Rachael asked what is being done in Supplee Valley. Sandy explained that a sewer pipe is being repaired. Since it is a wetland, the Township will use gravel and stones to make a path for the equipment. Scott suggested that, after this work is done, the Township should move the gravel and stones to the edge of the road and make a walking path to the picnic area. Scott made a motion to suggest that the Township look into using these materials for a path along Reservoir Road in response to a request from homeowners in that area. Rachael seconded the motion. The motion passed. Sandy will contact Mark Miller. Rachael voiced concern too about the area along the Reservoir between Paoli Pike and Rt. 3. She mentioned that a path is needed there because so many people including children walk there to fish in the reservoir.

Rachael asked if the BOS would supply water proof boots for the CB to safely walk in the wet areas when doing plantings. They should be large enough for regular footwear to fit in and come up to the knee. Her boots were ruined. Sandy will check with CRC to see what kind of boots they use. These would be kept in the Public Works garage and available for those people doing plantings.

## **LIAISON REPORTS**

Historical Commission – Judy reported that the historic area has been converted back to the Revolutionary War era. Also, there is a new display of artwork in the Blacksmith Shop.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Judy asked for clarification of the Weed Inc proposal for work at the Blacksmith Shop. Ginnie explained that the work is done only in the wetlands. Sandy assured Judy that there is no spraying in the immediate historic area.

Bill Egan mentioned, in regards to woods, that he was reminded that the BOS thought it was a good idea to put wood chips around the trees in Clymer's Woods.

He received a constant contact from the Township website with an article about the Ashbridge Preserve. He and his wife took a walk through there. The street trees planted 20 years ago in Mill Creek will never become a woods. They should have been planted behind the houses where they could connect with the other wooded areas.

**ADJOURNMENT** - There being no further business, Scott made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Rachael seconded the motion. There was no discussion or public comment. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Kiefer, Recording Secretary