

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP**  
**ANNUAL PLANNING MEETING**  
**January 12, 2013**

*The East Goshen Township Board of Supervisors and members of the ABCs met on Saturday, January 12, 2013 at 9:00 am at the East Goshen Township Building for the Annual Planning Meeting. Those in attendance were:*

**Board of Supervisors**

Senya Isayeff  
Carmen Battavio  
E Martin Shane  
Charles Proctor

**Conservancy Board**

Sandra Snyder, Chairman  
Bill Coffey  
Walter Wujcik  
Ginnie Newlin

**Historical Commission**

Chris Reardon, Chairman  
Ellen Carmody, Vice Chairman  
Kathryn Yahraes  
Judy Schafer  
Sue Ciorletti

**Commerce Development Commission**

Al Zuccarello, Chairman  
Vince Lord  
Don Zembruski

**Township Staff**

Rick Smith, Township Manager  
Frank Vattilano, Director of Recreation  
Mark Gordon, Zoning Officer  
Jon Altshul, Township CFO  
Mark Miller, Director of Public Works

**Municipal Authority**

Dana Pizarro, Vice Chairman  
Kevin Cummings  
Jack Yahraes  
Fran Beck  
Ed McAssey

**Planning Commission**

Sue Carty, Chairman  
George Martynick  
Dan Daley  
Al Zuccarello

**Park & Recreation Commission**

Heidi Karpa, Chairman  
PJ Viloski, Vice Chairman  
Ann Marie Fletcher-Moore  
John Jamgochian  
Erich Meyer  
Betsy Williams  
Joe Zulli

**Deer Committee**

Tara Dougherty

The meeting started at 9:15 am. Kevin Cummings led the Pledge of Allegiance. There was a moment of silence to remember our troops. Carmen asked each person to stand and give their name and the ABC they are on. He thanked everyone for the work they do as volunteers for the township. It makes East Goshen a premier township.

**Conservancy Board**

Sandra Snyder presented the Conservancy Board's accomplishments for 2012 and goals for 2013.

**Mission Statement**

Protect and nurture East Goshen's natural resources and educate East Goshen citizens of their importance.

**Accomplishments for 2012**

1. Planted over 100 trees and small plants to increase the riparian buffer in the Supplee Valley Preserve.
2. Protected previous planting in the reforested area of Applebrook Park with fencing to deter wildlife from destroying the plants.
3. Officially named the reforested area in Applebrook Park to be called Clymer's Woods after the founding father George Clymer who lived in close proximity to the park.

4. Worked with Mark Miller to have signs installed in Clymer's Woods identifying the area, as well as restoring other information signs at various township open space locations.
5. Worked the Park and Recreational Commission to have more recycling containers in both East Goshen Park and Applebrook Park. This was approved at the end of the year and Mark Miller's crew will be installing around 15 new bins soon.
6. Worked with Rick Smith to have proper recycling containers placed in all rooms of the East Goshen Township building so that all reusable materials could be recycled.
7. Our board members volunteered at other ABC events including the Historical Commission's Living History Day, the Township Community Day and Keep East Goshen Beautiful day.
8. Continued invasive species control for Township open space by the Blacksmith Shop and in the Supplee Valley Preserve.
9. Submitted articles to the Township quarterly newsletter (articles on Bats, The Emerald Ash Borer, Forested Riparian Buffers and detailing Recycling in our township).
10. Monitored the bat houses and bird nest boxes installed by Public Works in Ashbridge Preserve, Applebrook Park and Supplee Valley open space.
11. We worked closely with Mark Miller to remove the overgrown and dead trees and plants along East Boot Road (across from Bellingham). In addition, we had the Pennsylvania State University do a soil sample for us of the soil at that location so that we can be better prepared to plant there in the future.
12. We performed various site walks to monitor progress on open space areas of concern such as East Goshen Park, Applebrook Park and Supplee Valley Preserve. Also we participated in site walks for properties with proposed developments planned to review landscape development plans first hand, such as Goshen Meadows.

#### **Goals for 2013**

1. Increase the riparian buffer plantings throughout the Township and continue monitoring new PA state law for impacts on the Township's riparian buffer ordinance.
2. Continue control of invasive plants species in Township wetlands, while leveraging past work with the Park & Recreation Commission and Public Works Department on reforestation, understory and meadows efforts in Applebrook Park.
3. Continue education of residents on good environmental practices through articles in the Township Newsletter.
4. Continue to work with all township boards to increase recycling in the township.
5. Create environmental education for residences around storm water control, such as rain gardens and rain barrels. Specifically look at having rain barrels installed at the East Goshen Township building.
6. Continue implementation of Conservancy Board recommendations for the Stewardship Assessment by the National Lands Trust Center for Conservation landowners.
7. Implement a new ordinance for legacy trees, wooded lots, and meadows.
8. Continue the use of volunteers to lessen the burden financially during plantings and the maintenance of those plantings.
9. Work with the Township to protect the chrome serpentine barrens in East Goshen Park.

**COMMENTS:** Sandy explained the idea of using rain barrels at the Township building so residents could see how they work. They can be purchased at Home Depot. Senya mentioned that the County provides them at the Government Services Building. Bill Coffey mentioned that the barrel and drainage system costs about \$150. Marty commented that East Goshen has printed recycling stickers the residents can put on trash cans. He also encouraged those present to let the Board of Supervisors know when they find something in the Township Ordinance that should be updated. Also, the Township received a grant to update the Township Comprehensive Plan. Mark Gordon will be heading this project. Ginnie mentioned that the CRC (Chester – Ridley - Crum Creek Assoc) has been a great help with the projects in the Supplee Valley Preserve.

### **Historical Commission**

Chris Reardon presented the Historical Commission's accomplishments for 2012 and goals for 2013.

#### **Accomplishments**

1. A very successful Living History Day Event was held in June (more below).

2. A grant application to American Battlefield Protection for the County's "Battle of the Clouds" Project was approved. East Goshen Historic commission will play a leadership role in the project. This is the first time ABPP has given three consecutive grants to anyone and the \$53,000 grant is among the larger grants awarded.
3. Updated/corrected existing signage at the Plank House and Blacksmith Shop.
4. Completed a brochure on "Battle of the Clouds" to include within the brochure a "Call for Papers on the Battle of the Clouds".
5. Planted and maintained a spring garden at the Plank House.
6. Continued the Museum Archiving Project. All items in the Blacksmith shop and most in the Plank House have been recorded and photographed. A replacement archiving program is being created using Excel.
7. Reduced Historic Commission's budget by almost 40% without reducing our programs to the community, or support of the BOS and other ABCs.
8. "Historic Structures" data for the Battle of the Clouds Grant project has been completed. All Family Histories for the early houses are complete.
9. In 2012 (exclusive of Living History Day) the Blacksmith shop and Plank House were open to the public for 98 hours, providing tours for 213 people and providing 17 hours of training to volunteers.
10. Thanks for Mark Miller and his staff. We now have two historically correct handmade benches and a water trough.
11. Also, thanks to Mark Miller, the roof of the Plank House was replaced and the windows in both the Plank House and Blacksmith Shop have been repaired and lighting was added.
12. A research paper on George Clymer, as well as a poster, were created and added to our presentations in the Wheelwright Shop (meeting room).

#### **Goals and Objectives Approved or Started in 2012 to be completed in 2013**

1. Set up Historic Commission information pages on the township web site and create social media pages (e.g. Facebook) for the Historic Commission.
2. Members of the Commission participated in National Historic Day at Immaculatta University.
3. Develop a set of "mini events" for the summer months to replace and/or enhance the traditional Saturday openings of the Plank House and BSS.
4. Work with Chester County and the local townships to complete the state funded Battle of the Clouds project.
5. Present the East Goshen Living History Day program on June 1, 2013.
6. Participate in the Chester County Village Walks and Town Tours program on July 25 2013.
7. Complete entry of all Blacksmith shop and Plank House historic items into the township's archival database.
8. Update the historic presentations on the walls of the Wheelwright Shop (meeting room).
9. Beginning in August 2013, the 19<sup>th</sup> century furnishings in the Plank House and BSS will be replaced with 18<sup>th</sup> century furnishings. The presentation programs and tour guide clothing will be changed back to Revolutionary Era.
10. Install new podium sign for advertising special programs and events in Historic Goshenville.

#### **Identified Areas that need improvement**

1. Advertising of programs and activities continue to need improvement.
2. Attract and train additional volunteers for Historic Goshenville programs.
3. Work with BOS to identify new Commission candidates to fill the roster.

#### **Other Sites and Programs at which the Historic Commission Participated or Volunteered**

1. National History Day – Immaculata University
2. Community Day – East Goshen
3. East Goshen Farmer's Market
4. Keep East Goshen Beautiful day
5. Phila. Campaign 1777, Brandywine Creek State Park, MD
6. Colonial Plantation, Ridley State Park, PA

7. Brandywine Battlefield
8. Newlin Grist Mill
9. Historic Sugartown
10. Paoli Battlefield
11. Historic New Castle
12. 1704 House – Brinton Family Reunion

**Items of note**

**Living History Day 2012**

1. Many hours of volunteer research in the Chester County Archives and at the Chester County Historical Society were required.
2. Sewing additional Civil War outfits for volunteers. As before, the Historic Commission purchased the patterns and material and had volunteers sew the outfits. By doing this, the Historic Commission was able to costume volunteers at a large savings to the Township.
3. Created our own banners to advertise the Living History Day event at a large savings to the township.
4. Worked with over 34 costumed volunteers and reenactors to design, set up, and coordinate a program that was presented to over 750 attendees.
5. Many of the items created for our event are now on display at the Chester County Historical Society.
6. Monthly write ups of the Civil War events that took place in 1862.

**Living History Day 2013**

1. Most volunteers (some from as far away as Harrisburg) have agreed to return for the 2013 Living History Day.
2. Planning for the 2013 Living History Day is complete and staffed. We expect over 40 volunteers and reenactors to participate.
3. Most of the presentations will be now, and the focus will be on the impact of the war and the changes in industry in our area circa 1863.

**COMMENTS:** Chris mentioned that the 2012 Living History Day had 750 attendees and 34 volunteers. This year will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> and final year for the Civil War. The first meeting on the Battle of the Clouds was in November. About 17 municipalities are involved in this project. Marty is a member of the Chester County Planning Commission and commented that they also found discrepancies in the records about the conflicts in this area and encouraged the Historic Commission to work with them. Chris mentioned that for the East Goshen anniversary celebration in 2017, the Historic Commission has started to update photos/maps in the BSS meeting room. Ginnie Newlin asked what date was selected for the Plank House. She feels that some of the furnishings are more elaborate than would have been used. Chris replied 1790-1810 is the period of the house. They use “middlings” or middle class furnishings. Kathryn Yahraes pointed out that the PH was still standing in the 1900’s so there can be a lot of flexibility.

**Municipal Authority**

Dana Pizarro presented the Municipal Authority’s accomplishments for 2012 and goals for 2013.

**PROJECTS**

1. Ridley Creek Sewage Treatment Plant (RCSTP)
  - a. Issued Request for Proposal for Plant Operator and hired a new plant operations firm.
  - b. Addressed chemical feed equipment problems affecting plant performance
  - c. Corrective Action Plan prepared and submitted to PADEP
  - d. Plant in compliance with NPDES permit in 4<sup>th</sup> quarter
  - e. Conducted RCSTP open house/tours for Supervisors and residents on October 20, 2012
2. Lockwood Chase Sewage Treatment Plant (LCSTP) Elimination
  - a. Construction contract executed in March and construction completed and project closed out in September.
  - b. All affected residents are tied into new sewers discharging to RCSTP
  - c. Site restoration in progress.
3. Hershey Mill Pump Station (PS) Diversion
  - a. Design completed for diversion of flows to RCSTP

- b. All permits and approvals for construction issued in November.
  - c. Easements obtained
  - d. Project is bid-ready except for subsurface investigation
  - e. Comminutor selected to replace trash rack to address issue of discharge of trash to the PS and maintenance requirements; installation will be conducted by Township forces.
4. Reserve PS Elimination
- a. Design complete for diversion of flows to RCSTP by gravity sewer
  - b. PADEP approved the closure plan in November.
  - c. All permits have been obtained
  - d. Obtaining of easements underway
5. Marydell PS Elimination
- a. Design complete for diversion of flows to RCSTP by gravity sewer
  - b. All permits and easements have been obtained
  - c. Project bid on December 19, 2012; bids due late January 2013.

#### SEWER SYSTEM

1. Completed Correction Action requirements of December 2008 PADEP Consent Order and Agreement on March 31, 2012 to identify and address sewer system inflow/infiltration (extraneous flows).
2. Program ongoing as pro-active Township infrastructure asset management
3. Internal report prepared in October to identify future actions.

#### MISCELLANEOUS BOARD ACTIVITIES

1. Board members prepared an article for each township newsletter.
2. Board members attended 11 of 12 monthly West Goshen Municipal Authority meetings to stay abreast of issues potentially impacting East Goshen Municipal Authority.

#### GOALS FOR 2013

##### On-going

1. Submit an article for each newsletter
2. Attend West Goshen meetings quarterly – more often if needed
3. Respond to capacity requests in 45 days or less
4. Continue to Implement I & I Plan
5. Operate RSTP in compliance with NPDES Permit

##### Projects

1. Lockwood – Final restoration
2. Marydell Pump Station – construction
3. Hershey Mill Pump Station – construction
4. Reserve Pump Station – construction
5. Borrowing – reimburse Capital reserve for design and construction funds

**COMMENTS:** Dana commented that they are constantly updating and improving facilities and old infrastructure. He spoke highly of the work Mark Miller and the Public Works Department does and the savings they bring. Marty also spoke about the importance and impact their work has on the residents' sewer rates. Dana thanked Jon Altshul for the financial reports he is providing every month.

### Park and Recreation

Heidi Karpa presented the Park & Recreation Commission's accomplishments for 2012.

1. Commission members organized and implemented the continuation of the East Goshen Winter Farmers Market.
2. Conducted 3 large and safe special events that included Community Day, the Egg Hunt and the Pumpkin Festival that were attended by a total of 10,000 participants.
3. Conducted 15 weekly programs that provided diverse activities for age groups from 2 to 80 years old.
4. Conducted a well-organized, safe and educational summer youth camp whose revenues covered cost of summer staff, field trips, supplies and entertainment.

5. Provided a training experience for 75 volunteers of middle school to college age in supervision and interaction, positive behavior reinforcement in a summer camp setting.
6. Worked with Applebrook Golf Club to provide residents and their guests to play at an exclusive course.
7. Worked with athletic leagues to provide fair distribution of field use at East Goshen Park that provided for over 1,000 participants to have a field to play on.
8. Made use of over 300 volunteers of all ages to help conduct special events such as Community Day, Help a Neighbor Day and summer camp.

### **GOALS FOR 2013**

1. Develop a marketing plan for East Goshen Park.
2. Expand and enhance East Goshen Farmers Market
3. Continue to increase revenue opportunities: for example:
  - a. A ball field signage/sponsorship plan
  - b. Mobile food vendors
  - c. Community events
4. Develop a Volunteer Brigade Program
5. Strategically improve communication with residents about programming and community events.
6. Support the installation of the amphitheater in East Goshen Park and develop preliminary programs.
7. Partner with the conservancy Board and Historical commission to develop programs of mutual interest.
8. Continue to expand and enhance the East Goshen Park Tot Lot
9. Partner with the West Chester Garden Club to enhance East Goshen Park.

### **LONG TERM GOALS**

1. Identify and participate in educational and training programs that support the Commission's goals and objectives.
2. Continue to review and implement goals in the Township Comprehensive Plan.
3. Research and identify ways to deepen each park visitor's experience of the park. For example:
  - a. Historic
  - b. Horticultural
  - c. Civic.
4. Develop a community health and wellness program that addresses the needs of our township's demographics.

**COMMENTS:** Heidi thanked Frank Vattilano and Mark Miller for all of the work they do for Township events. Marty mentioned that the County is working on a plan for trails from Exton to Downingtown to West Chester including East Goshen. Mark Gordon reported on the status of the plan and where the East Goshen paths may be installed. When asked, Heidi reported that the previous operator of the East Goshen Farmers Market resigned to start her own market. East Goshen Township and the Park & Recreation Commission will be operating the East Goshen Farmers Market.

### **Planning Commission**

Susan Carty presented the goals for 2013 for the Planning Commission.

1. Arrange for pipeline safety education session in coordination with Township Zoning Officer.
2. Encourage Commission members to conduct focused discussions regarding future approach and anticipation of Variance requests for older neighborhood developments considering re-development.
3. Conduct one end-of-year Commission self-evaluation session.
4. Consider developing and implementing Solar Energy Regulations that provide appropriate safeguards for screening, stormwater, setbacks, etc.
5. Encourage any new Commission members to pursue educational opportunities offered by Chester County 2020.
6. Continue the commitment to working with new Applicants in a supportive, unbiased manner ensuring that development within the township adheres to the township ordinances, reflects the goals of the Comprehensive Plan and contributes to the quality of life for East Goshen Township residents.
7. Finalize Zoning Ordinance Amendment recommendations made to the Board of Supervisors by the Commission as a result of the 2012 Zoning Ordinance review.

COMMENTS: Sue noted that in 2012 the Planning Commission reviewed 6 variance applications, 2 conditional use applications – One of which was for a dog day care facility and 2 land development applications. She noted that they had updated the shopping center sign and the billboard provisions in the Zoning Ordinance. In addition they have completed their review of the zoning ordinance and are finalizing their recommendations. All but one of the PC members have completed the Master Planning courses sponsored by Chester County 2020. She thanked Chuck Proctor for putting on 2 educational seminars for the PC, one on Special Exceptions & Variances, and the other on the Religious Land Use Protection Act.

### **Deer Committee**

In the absence of Chairman Jim McRee, Mark reported that 19 deer have been taken so far this year. He noted that the Board has added another member to the Committee for 2013. He reported that there have been no reported safety issues or rules violations so far this year. He noted that there have been challenges with hunting in the Grand Oak/Mill Creek area since a lot of people regularly access the area for walking their dogs.

He noted the Ruth does a tremendous job coordinating and posting the schedules

In response to a question Mark advised that before the DMP was implemented there had been an average of 80 deer/car incidents a year and that this has been reduced to 30 to 40 per year

The 2013 goal of the Deer Committee was to continue to implement the Deer Management Program approved by the Board of Supervisors.

### **Commerce Development Commission**

Al Zuccarello presented the 2013 goals for the Commerce Development Commission.

1. Engage key business communities in future C \* I/BP forums.  
Integrate Office/Condos complex in Goshen Executive center  
Engage missed contacts for invitations to future forums.
2. Update C-zones business community directory list for inclusion on township website for rollout in February 2013. Theme: Support businesses supporting EGT with their taxes.
3. Landlord interviews – fact finding recommendations to issues of troubled shopping districts for consideration.  
Input to Brandywine Conservancy on two key areas for BOS and Planning Commission regarding 10 year update of the Township Comprehensive Plan.
4. Advocacy for C & I/BP zones constituencies to BOC through Planning Commission as advisement input if warranted.
5. CDC membership directly into commerce organizations or chambers (ChesCO Econ Devel Council, etc), re assistance with marketing vacant stores &/or buildings within our C/I zones.
6. Continue annual I/BP zones & Commercial zones forums.

COMMENTS: Al noted that while the CDC was discussed in 2011 it did not officially exist until 2012. He summarized their mission as “doing what it can for the business community.”

He stated that they had two forums for the business community in 2012. The first was a breakfast meeting for store owners in the shopping centers and the second was a luncheon for the businesses in the industrial and business parks. The feedback on both of the forums was positive.

As for 2013 he advised that the CDC intended Maintenance continuation of medium to long term involvement and keeping low profile while engaging our business constituency as needed or desired. “We’re here to Help!” (Not impede or interrupt). A summary of Specific 2013 goals are:

Continue to engage the business community in future Commercial, Industrial & Business Park forums: specifically integrate the Goshen Executive Center and missed contacts in future Forums.

Work with landlords to develop solutions for shopping center issues.

Provide input to Brandywine Conservancy, Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission for the 10 year update to the Comprehensive Plan.

Update the township business list for roll-out on the Township website. Target: February 2013. The Theme: Support businesses supporting EGT with their taxes.

Become Advocacy for Commercial, Industrial and Business Park constituencies.

Contact and work with organizations such as the Chester County Economic Development Council, etc., for their assistance with marketing vacant stores and/or buildings in the Township.

**Jon Althsul – Chief Financial Officer**

Jon reported that the Township ended 2012 with a positive variance of 1.8 million dollars. He noted that, while the bulk of this came from unexpected earned income and real estate transfer taxes, all of the ABCs came in under budget.

**Carmen Battavio - Board of Supervisors**

Carmen stated that one of the primary responsibilities of the Board of Supervisors was to help the ABC's meet their goals for 2013. In addition, in 2013 he noted that the Board intended to think regionally and work with our municipal neighbors for the betterment of everyone. This would include the possible expansion of WEGO.

**Senya Isayeff – Board of Supervisors**

Senya thanked everyone for coming. He listed several examples where the various ABC's had made a difference in the Township, including; Clymer's Woods, which serves as the eastern gateway to the Township; the Park and Recreation programs, including the new Farmers Market, which is a community service; the historical events at the blacksmith shop complex; and the CDC forums.

**Marty Shane – Board of Supervisors**

Marty provided some additional information on the surplus, noting that the Public Works Department had also come in under budget. He opined that while the fiscal horizon looked bleak, East Goshen was in a better position than most municipalities.

**Rick Smith - Township Manager**

Rick read a statement from Dr. Clapper thanking the ABC's for their efforts to make East Goshen better. (Note: Dr. Clapper had a cold and he did not want to infect those in attendance so he gave the statement to Rick and went home)

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Kiefer, Recording Secretary