

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
CONSERVANCY BOARD MEETING
May 9, 2018**

The East Goshen Township Conservancy Board held a regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, May 9, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Building. In attendance were: Chairman Erich Meyer, Andy Tyler, Patti Brown, Sandy Snyder, and Walter Wujcik. Others in attendance: Carmen Battavio, Janet Emanuel and Mike Lynch, Township Supervisors; Mark Miller, Director of Public Works; Jon Altshul, Assistant Township Manager; and Rick Trailes, National Lands Trust.

Call to Order

Erich called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence

Erich led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance and then asked for a moment of silence to remember those who serve in our military and our first responders.

Minutes

The minutes of the April 11, 2018 meeting were approved as corrected.

Old Business

1. Keep East Goshen Beautiful – Sandy thanked everyone and the supervisors for coming out and helping. There are still a few groups who will clean up certain areas. The weather was good this year. She thinks having it around Earth Day is better. Jon reported that 80 bags of trash and lots of car parts were collected. About 45 volunteers came that day.
2. Spring Planting – Erich reported that he and Walter, with assistance from Public Works, planted trees along East Boot Road on Saturday May 5, 2018. His neighbor Krissy Baker helped him pick up the trees from Sam Brown's Nursery. They planted the following trees:

- 1 each-TAXODIUM D Falling Waters - 6ft ([Common Name: bald cypress](#))
- 2 each-BETULA N Dura Heat - 25 gallon ([Common Name: river birch](#))
- 1 each-MAGNOLIA Virginiana - 8-9 ft ([Common Name: sweet bay magnolia](#))
- 1 each-METASEQUOIA Glyptostrobodies - 7ft ([Common Name: dawn redwood](#))
- 2 each-CERCIS Canadensis - 8ft ([Common Name: eastern redbud](#))
- 1 each-CERCIS Canadensis - 2" caliper ([Common Name: eastern redbud](#))
- 1 each-CEDRUS Deodora - 8ft ([Common Name: deodar cedar](#))

New Business

1. Bat Houses – Jon forwarded an email request that he received from a Pin Oaks Resident. The request was to install bat houses near the pond. Carmen commented that since the bats are returning, it is important to provide housing for them. He is in favor of this. Sandy feels they should do a site walk to determine where to put them. Mark Miller will have Public Works build the bat houses.
Also, Erich mentioned that Ginnie Newlin suggested that the cages in Supplee Valley should come down. Mark Miller will look into this.

Marydell Pond Committee – Members present were: Kate Minshall, Jim Williams, Debbie Williams, Michelle Guinan, Mary Ellen Miller, Russell Miller, Jean Hendrix, and Scott Rainsford.

Rick Trailes from Natural Lands Trust did a quick review of the report they did for the Township about the Marydell pond. He mentioned that ponds in this study are man-made and used for stormwater management. Some algae is natural. Surface runoff into the ponds and streams is a problem. He spoke about the state of the watershed. He listed the things that cause algae to grow. He spoke about a forebay in the ponds, which is a smaller area used to collect sediment in the pond. Aquatic plants help put oxygen in the water. He showed a map of the Marydell watershed. It shows 19 inlets, which lead to the pond. He spoke about the existing features of the pond and how they are being impacted. Their recommendations are: meadow plantings instead of turf grass; more trees; aquatic plants in the pond; a buffer to slow down the water coming through the turf grass; dredging; aerators; and forebays which the Township Engineer needs to be consulted on.

Jim Williams asked, as the trees mature won't you see less of the pond? Rick answered yes as the trees grow up the sightline will change. But the trees can be placed to allow certain views if you want. Jim would like to see visual representations of what the views will be with the trees.

Russell Miller asked about shrubs. Rick would suggest trees over shrubs.

Michelle Guinan is concerned about ticks. Rick commented that ticks are everywhere. You should always check for them. She asked about a low growing meadow. Rick mentioned that at their preserves they keep the meadow at a 2-3 foot height. Russell asked about burning the meadow. Rick commented that every few years it would have to be burned. In between it is mowed about twice per year.

Kate Minshall volunteers at Longwood Gardens and they did a burn again this year because they found a decrease in ticks. She recommends native plants. She spoke to someone on the Longwood Committee and they said to call and they will help.

Rick mentioned that there is a "Mowing & Meadows" article in the 2nd appendix of their report. It is on the Township website.

Debbie Williams asked about wildlife. Rick commented that the taller the grass the more it will deter the geese. Also using native plantings will produce the proper ecosystem.

Kate Minshall asked about the forebays. Mark Miller mentioned that he was out there with the Township Engineer. They will pull some pipes out to produce the forebays. It will be much deeper in that area about 12 feet. Kate also mentioned that the children fish and skate on the pond so we need to consider access routes. Some people drive their cars down to the pond. Carmen suggested that they call the police to stop this.

Debbie Williams asked what the dredged material spread around will be like. Mark explained that it will be wet for about a year.

Jon mentioned that they need 3 permits from the DEP and the Chester Co. Conservation District. The Conservation District will come out to review the site for the permits. Jon hopes to have the permits by the end of the summer so they can start to dredge. By April or May of 2019 the material may be dry enough to start the plantings. Carmen mentioned that this will give a good amount of time to plan for the plantings etc.

Russell Miller asked if the contour lines can be changed or do we have to be careful about the spreading. Mark commented that the Township Engineer will do a plan for slopes, etc. The Township Engineer is working on a plan now. The plan will be shown to the Committee as soon as it is done.

Russell Miller commented that he lives NW of the pond and noticed that the snapping turtles are migrating. Mark explained that he will restock the pond with fish when it is done. The residents will see more activity at the pond. Pennoni Engineering is working on

the plan and Aquascapes will continue to maintain the pond. While it is under construction, the pond will be surrounded by fencing.

Jim Williams thanked the Conservancy Board for including the residents in this project.

Jon and the Committee scheduled a site walk on Thursday May 24 at 6:00 p.m,

Jon will send out letters to the residents letting them know what is being done.

Jon mentioned that the Committee needs a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson. Kate moved to nominate Jim Williams as Chairperson. Jim accepted the nomination. The vote was unanimous. Mary Ellen Miller nominated Russell Miller as Vice Chairperson. The vote was unanimous.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Andy moved to adjourn the meeting. Walter seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. The next meeting will be June 13, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Kiefer
Recording Secretary