

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP  
CONSERVANCY BOARD MEETING  
March 10, 2021**

The East Goshen Township Conservancy Board held a regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Because of COVID-19 restrictions, the meeting was held via Zoom conferencing. Members in attendance are indicated in **BOLD**:

**Chairman, Walter Wujcik**  
**Vice Chairman, Sandra Snyder**  
**Erich Meyer**  
**Scott Sanders**  
**Dan Flynn**  
Leo Sinclair  
**Alice Lenthe**

Others present were:

**Michele Truitt, Township Supervisor**  
**Mark Gordon, Zoning Officer**  
**Christina Morley**  
**Eunice Alexander, Goshen Tree Tenders**

**Call to Order**

Walter called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence**

Walter led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance and then asked for a moment of silence to remember our troops, first responders and healthcare personnel.

**Minutes**

The minutes of the February 10, 2021 meeting were approved.

**Chairman's Report**

None

**New Business**

1. Willistown Conservancy Trust – Lauren McGrath, Director of Watershed Protection Program and Chelsea Heck, Director of Annual Fund & Outreach were present. They gave a presentation about preservation of open space. They have branched out to attract people to the resources in Chester County. They have Bird Conservation which shows the importance of maintaining habitat for migrating birds. They have Watershed Protection which was established in 2017. They have 10 sampling sites within the Trust's program area. Monthly they sample the Ridley Creek water. They showed a map with 3 sampling sites on Ridley Creek in East Goshen. Ashbridge is the heart of their program where they do the most sampling. At the Ashbridge preserve they have planted 690 trees and have 200 more to do in May. Steward Thursday is when they meet with volunteers. Lauren reported that the quality of Ridley Creek is about the same. There have been some noticeable changes with the major storms we've had. In Ashbridge they've seen sand bars pop up and disappear. Testing should tell where most of the sediment is coming from. They want to put the data to good use. Maybe get grants for rain gardens. Monitoring is funded by the William Penn Foundation.

Walter mentioned that getting grants for a team of several groups seems to work better than for an individual group.

Mark commented that samples are taken at the Blacksmith Shop environmental preserve. Michele asked if they report their data to the Water Resources Authority in Chester County. Lauren answered that they put the information on the public database.

Alice asked if PA is doing any sampling. Lauren answered yes, the USGS has a site on Crum Creek and in Ridley Creek State Park. They do quarterly samples.

Chelsea mentioned that this Spring they are doing an education outreach at Ashbridge. They are hoping to do walking tours for small groups.

Mark discussed the neighborhoods around Ashbridge. Bow Tree has 3 ponds which are scheduled for renovation. Educating the public would be helpful.

Erich manages 200 acres across from the Conservancy. There are lots of birds, geese and deer. Chelsea mentioned that May 1<sup>st</sup> is their bird banding.

Christina asked what the timeframe is of their report. Lauren answered that they started in January 2018 but in March 2020 they had to pause because of COVID. In January 2021 they started again and are hoping to have 3 full years by the end of 2021.

Chelsea mentioned that there are future opportunities; i.e. tree planting, etc. The conservancy can do education for the public. They are trying to connect with the East Goshen community.

Walter and Eunice spoke about other sampling/monitoring that has been done in the area. Mark enjoyed the slides. Maybe it could be tailored more to Ashbridge and put on Facebook and the Township website. Also, Jason Lang may be interested in this for a summer camp field trip. He mentioned the corporate parks that Chester Creek goes through. He is doing a survey of the owners and wants to ask if they worked with conservation groups. Chelsea mentioned that they have stewardship training through virtual trail workshops if they are interested.

Christina mentioned pollinator gardens. Chelsea commented that they have a meadow at their office at Providence Rd. They have talks about pollinators. Michele that there is one in East Goshen Park. Jason Lang is in charge.

### **Old Business**

1. Keep East Goshen Beautiful Day - This will be held on Saturday April 17, 2021 with raindate on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Walter will send out emails and check with Jason for his contacts. The supplies will be outside of the Township building for pick up.
2. Clymers Woods - This past Saturday they did a site walk. They will walk again in May or June to see which trees did not bloom and to do mulching. In the Fall they will plant replacements if needed. Scott will give suggestions for tree plantings. Mark feels that the new Paoli Pike Trail and Applebrook Park may be good places for plantings and benches under the trees. Walter commented that when they trim the grass, they are hitting the trees and marking the bark. Scott commented that mulch should be put around the tree but not up to the tree. It will still hold moisture and prevent weeds. Covers were mentioned. Erich mentioned that there are fabric covers. Don't use plastic because it will eventually cause mold and disease. Mark commented do we even need to mow in Clymers Woods. He suggested letting the grass grow around the trees as a pilot and see what it looks like, only mow the outer ring. Sandy mentioned that originally the BOS wanted a manicured, welcoming area so they insisted it be mowed. Mark will speak to Mark Miller about this.

**Liaison Reports**

1. Municipal Authority - Walter reported that the plant is running well. They are trying to set up a meeting with West Goshen about the costs for the improvements at the Westtown Way Pump Station.

2. Board of Supervisors – Michele mentioned that they put their search for a Finance Director on the fast track and have interviewed some candidates. The search for a Township Manager is ongoing. Applications will be accepted through next week.

**Correspondence**

None

**Any Other Matter**

None

**Public Comment**

None

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, Scott moved to adjourn the meeting. Sandy seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday April 14, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Kiefer, Recording Secretary