

EGT Environmental and Sustainability Advisory Council Meeting
Monday, April 22, 2024 6:30 PM
FINAL

Attendees: Christi Marshall, Kennan Flanagan, Peg Friese, Mary Krueger, Christine McCormick, Kimberly Schaffer, Tony Natale, Barbara Emery by phone (Board Liaison), Reese Corso and Natalie Golden (Youth Advisors)

1. Call to Order 6:30 PM by Christi Marshall.
2. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Christine McCormick.
3. Moment of Silence was led by Christine McCormick.
4. No one was recording the meeting.
5. Mary Krueger and Christine McCormick have been collecting solar eclipse glasses to be re-used, kept out of landfills through Warby Parker who will be sending collected glasses to the next eclipse site in South America.
6. Christi Marshall stated that she is pleased with the substantial contribution made by the three new Council members and youth advisors. Kim Schaffer has agreed to chair the Program Committee.
7. Christi Marshall led discussion regarding committees and potential events.
 - A sustainability Expo is under consideration. It could promote the use of antiques for recycling or continued use. It is a good way to recycle rather than throw away. Christi contacted 9 businesses who have some interest in this area. She also has received permission from Hershey's Mill to be a host for the event. She is having EGT also host an event. Kennan Flanagan pointed out that people do not value what they do not pay for and if a small fee is charged for services, more people will come.
 - Barbara Emery suggested that an online book be created to enable people to identify ways to make good use of things that people are getting rid of. A non-profit Community Warehouse Project in West Chester is an established organization that supports getting unwanted furnishings to people in need. Tony Natale identified that this may be a better approach from a timing perspective as people may not have a need when a workshop is provided.
8. Kim Schaffer identified a potential schedule of events for the year.
 - Media Sustainability Expo in September.
 - Community Day 6/29/2024.
 - July Parks and Recreation Camp- Ideas for projects are needed.
 - August is empty.
 - September – Repair Café but needs volunteers to help. This would include sewing, electronics, watches, etc. that would be repaired. Christi Marshall stated that she has permission to do one in Hershey's Mill.
 - October – Pumpkin Day.
 - November – Repair with a flair, "KMTSUGI" Workshop.
 - December – Holidays, nothing planned.
 - Kim indicated that she would like to add something on recycling and some workshops.
9. Christi Marshall has spoken with the Conservancy Board about doing some joint programs or workshops.

10. There was a general discussion on using the park bulletin board to communicate events, encourage recycling and tie into our social media efforts. It could also encourage recycling in the park.
11. Mary Krueger indicated that she would bring a list of social media resources to the next meeting for review.
12. Secretary Minutes Report. Tony Natale made a motion to approve the minutes that were previously provided covering the meeting of March 25, 2024. Minutes were unanimously approved.
13. Barbara Emery reported that the Board of Supervisors met and there was nothing to report that impacted ESAC.
14. Treasurer's Report. Mary Krueger provided information that no money was spent during the past month.
15. Committee Reports:
 - Media/Social Media Report. Mary Krueger provided an update. Mary will bring a list of resources for the next meeting. She will also discuss the timing of going online. A suggestion was made to have cards made containing resource information that could be placed in the EGT lobby. Nothing has been done on Instagram. Facebook has an increasing number of followers.
 - Native Plant Committee. Peg Friese provided an update. Peg has about 50 plants ready for the native plant garden at EGT building. She has received a rejection letter from Tree Tenders regarding the requested plugs. They stated that ESAC scored highly but they were inundated with projects focused on higher needs in dense urban areas. She met with Mark Milen and has not yet received requested plans from Derek Davis for phase 1 of the project. She has checked and the hose at the building can be used and would like to get a soaker hose. She expects to be able to dig the garden within 2 weeks. The township will supply mulch and dig out the garden area.
 - Phase 2 of the project is a "pocket park". She needs the plans to identify the water line, electric, gas, and fiber optics. There is no budget impact as the costs were in last year's budget. At the beginning of May, we may be able to get WCE students to assist with the project.
 - Multi-family Dwelling Committee. Mary Krueger reported that an email letter on recycling went to the apartment complexes in EGT. The management stated they were interested in recycling and would forward the emails to residents. The issue is that they do not sort trash from recycling and most tend to end up as trash. Tree Tops has an event for Earth Day and ESAC can tag on to it.
 - Programs Committee. Christi Marshall discussed ESAC participation in EGT Earth Day on April 20th. Christi along with Kennan Flanagan and Tony Natale participated and collected over 4 bags of trash.
16. Christi Marshall led a discussion on communicating the approved letter regarding the resolution that was passed by the Board of Supervisors on single use plastic bags, straws, and Styrofoam containers. Tony Natale discussed his experience delivering letters to 3 businesses. One of them, Vanos, had a negative experience with paper bags prior to the resolution and will not participate. Starbucks and Sabatino's will do whatever Giant will do. Kennan Flanagan will draft a memo with talking points for use with Giant and other larger businesses. Kennan and Christi may go to Giant together.

17. Kim Schaffer researched pricing for ESAC shirts and hats. She is obtaining pricing on t-shirts, collared shirts, ¾ sleeve shirts, and hats. There needs to be a quantity of 12 to place an order. She will provide information to the Council to get everyone's opinions.
18. Kennan Flanagan discussed that other EGT Councils have environmental issues that they are addressing. There are synergies or overlaps with each. Our role would be to collect information from each organization by attending meetings, providing advice, and reporting back to the Council. Christi Marshall requested volunteers to attend meetings. Kennan Flanagan will take the Planning Group. Peg Friese will take Conservancy. Barbara Emery will take the Pipeline. Kim, Mary, or Christine will take Parks and Recreation.
19. Barbara Emery will check with Derek Davis regarding the use of Zoom for Council and Committee meetings.
20. Adjourned Meeting: Christi Marshall made a motion to adjourn at 8:25PM, seconded by Christine McCormick and passed unanimously.