

EGT Environmental and Sustainability Advisory Council Meeting

Tuesday, June 24, 2024 6:30 PM

Attendees: Kennan Flanagan, Peg Friese, Mary Krueger, Kimberly Schaffer, Tony Natale, Barbara Emery (Board Liaison), Derek Davis (EGT Manager)

Absent: Reese Corso, Natalie Golden (Youth Advisors)

Guest: Dan Truitt, Sharon Richardson (via Zoom)

1. Call to Order 6:30 PM by Derek Davis.
2. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Derek Davis.
3. Moment of Silence was led by Derek Davis.
4. The meeting was available via Zoom and in person. No one else was recording the meeting.
5. Board Advisor Report and ESAC Appointments - Barbara Emery reported that the Board of Supervisors has accepted Christi Marshall's resignation. Christine McCormick has also resigned from ESAC. Barbara announced that Tony Natale has been appointed as Interim Chair for the remainder of the year. It is hoped that ESAC will be a good blend of legacy members and new voices. Nominees will be sought for two openings on ESAC. We will also need to nominate and approve members for Secretary and Vice Chair.
6. Tony Natale led a discussion of ESAC Mission, desire for greater member participation, committee structure, and assessment of where ESAC is going.
 - a. Reviewed Barbara Emery's collected comments from ESAC members regarding what they would like to see in ESAC.
 - b. Tony Natale stated that the comments were not intended to malign what was done in the past but to look at what could be done in the future to make ESAC better.
 - c. ESAC should identify goals and measure results. Mary Krueger stated that she is not sure that ESAC can manage projects like a business environment. If there is a passion for something, we should go do it. Tony stated that passion is good if it relates to the ESAC mission. Ken felt that there is room for both in ESAC, i.e., passion and mission.
 - d. Kim Schaffer commented that we should revisit the mission and have a greater focus on the ESAC charter and ordinance. Ken felt that it does not need to be an all or nothing situation. ESAC is in an advisory role and works for the Board of Supervisors. Mary felt that we need to better define what we want to work on.
 - e. Derek Davis was asked a question about EGT employees and their ability to set an example for the township to follow relating to recycling and ridding plastic water bottles. He was not opposed to it but would need to see specifics.

- f. Barbara Emery suggested that we look at the mission and ordinance at a future meeting. We could also look at what some other townships are doing. Tony suggested getting input from the Board and Derek. Barbara felt that it would be better to go to them with a list of items that would like to be done.
 - g. Mary desired to pick a couple of things to work on, e.g., the native plant garden and some workshops. There is a lot left to do on the native plant garden project as it is a demonstration garden. The educational aspect of the project is what ties it to the ESAC mission.
 - h. Derek suggested that with the number of changes to ESAC, we should take the remainder of the year to develop a strategic plan to be accomplished in 2025.
 - i. Mary expressed interest in composting and conducting workshops on community composting. This is being done in other nearby townships.
7. Tony Natale made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved.
8. Mary Krueger provided a Treasurer Report. There were two charges. One for \$560 should have gone to Conservancy, the other for \$340 for mulch is questionable. Derek will follow up on this item.
9. Committee Reports – All
- a. Community Day – ESAC will not participate this year.
 - b. Fall EGT Newsletter-Article on the Native Plant Garden was prepared and submitted with review and input from several members.
 - c. Native Plant Garden-Next steps are to plan a demonstration workshop for the Fall.

10. Public Comments:

- a. Dan Truitt requested that ESAC review the ordinance regarding solar energy. Dan made recommendations to simplify and encourage residents to install solar more easily. The ordinance will be reviewed along with Dan's comments at a future meeting.
 - b. Sharon Richardson is new to EGT and has previously been a member of an EAC in Charlestown, PA. She is also a Master Gardener. She is interested in our ESAC and wished to view the meeting.
11. Adjourn Meeting: Motion by Tony Natale at 8:00pm to adjourn and unanimously consented.