

**Environmental Advisory Committee
Minutes - April 16, 2013, 7:00 p.m.
Forest Hills Borough Building**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE: Jack Lawrence, Molly Mehling, Elizabeth Hanzel, Patricia D. Brown. Elizabeth Donohoe sent her regrets.

Approval of Minutes

The March minutes were accepted and approved as received.

Reports of Committee Members

The Committee has not been contacted by Council for any advisory work.

Old Business

Committee members reviewed the preliminary list projects where the Committee can make an impact on the Borough and its' residents.

- 1) Outreach and awareness education to residents on the following subjects:
 - storm water information or workshops
 - rain barrels
 - composting
 - existing bird sanctuaries
 - backyard WWW applications: e.g. Yardmap, iNaturalist
 - Sponsor or support bird counts.
- 2) Quality of open borough streams.
- 3) Bird Sanctuaries.
 - building and maintaining bat or owl houses
 - creating "seed bombs"; children's project
- 4) Utilize sustainability internship opportunities. The borough council has allocated \$4000. Molly Mehling has already written a brief explanation at Steve Morris' request.
- 5) A future opportunity might include pursuing the sustainability certification for the Borough.

New Business

- 1) The committee asked Mehling to write a more detailed paper with an emphasis on storm water issues within the borough. The paper will be disseminated to committee members for comment.
- 2) Jack Lawrence talked about secondary roles of the committee. The committee might serve as a podium to advocate for environmental issues. We could support individual citizens within the borough who see needs within the borough.
 - 3) Molly announced that she plans to begin her own "Forest Hills Nature Watch" page on Facebook.

- 4) Elizabeth Hanzel will be talking with her community volunteers to determine what steps they would like to pursue concerning birds within the borough.
- 5) Jack will contact the borough to see if the the Tree City times should announce that the Blrd Committee is now part of the EAC. The EAC always seeks additional members and interest in nature concerns.
- 6) In an e-mail Elizabeth Donohoe shared that Diana Emanuele of the Crime Prevention Committee is asking about a joint effort to create a borough e-mail communication to keep residents informed. She requests this item of concern be placed on the May agenda.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:50PM. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 21, 2013 at 7:00PM

Respectfully Submitted, Patricia D. Brown, Secretary