

Springfield Township Environmental Advisory Committee STEAC Monthly Meeting Minutes

October 22, 2013

<u>Members</u>		<u>Attending</u>	<u>Members</u>		<u>Attending</u>
Jim Davis	Ward 1	Yes	Michael Christopher	Ward 6	No
Todd McGarvey	Ward 4	Yes	Ken Rapp	Ward 6	Yes
Mark McGann	Ward 5	Yes	Margaret Hilsbos	Ward 7	Yes
Lori Devlin	Health Officer	No			

Action items in bold.

Todd called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Public Comment

1. No public comment.

General Business

2. Approval of minutes: Committee voted to approve the minutes from September.

STEAC Organization

Coordinators' reports

3. CRC : Ken - BMP Maintenance was performed with CRC on 9/28. Annual CRC banquet and awards dinner is coming up on Thursday, November 7. Ken has a spare ticket if anyone is interested.
4. DCVA: Jim reports that DCVA is promoting BMP and storm water management and maintenance of riparian buffers for stream quality. Ken passed around the current DCVA newsletter. On November 9, DCVA is coordinating an event, "Watershed RoundTable: Sharing Best Practices" at the Cusano Center at the John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge, with other local watershed organizations. Ken plans to attend.
5. Website: Ken reported that he has obtained the updated software for the home page. **Ken will update the site.** Margaret reported that the Wiki upgrade is still in progress.
6. Planning commission: Todd reported that at the July meeting there was discussion of opening new restaurant (Chipotle) at Baltimore Pike and Route 420. This will need to be approved by the zoning commission for approval. The Patient First clinic at old Springfield Inn is going forward.

STEAC Calendar/Monthly Activities

Storm Water BMP Park Project

7. Maintenance: Maintenance was performed on September 28. Ken suggested that it is possibly time to cut back some of the vegetation. Ken will consult with Anne Murphy and/or Garden Club to determine whether it can/should be cut back to improve aesthetics or for other reasons. If it should be cut we should look at manual methods of cutting to avoid having planned plants cut down.

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- Maintenance Plan: Todd uploaded draft as text to his user page on the wiki, and will look at formatting and linking in to appropriate pages.
- Signage: Committee will take one more week to provide edits to Ken. Ken send out a reminder this weekend for people to submit their edits. Sunday for final comments, then Ken to incorporate by following Friday and send out to committee members for final concurrence.

Monthly Topic

- Mark discussed the idea he raised last month regarding coordinating service projects with schools. Mark said that it would serve our educational mission to involve students in our projects, and that students have a requirement to complete a certain number of service hours. Mark reported that he had contacted Pam Gurelian, who coordinates one of the schools' Service Clubs. Pam responded positively and invited us to speak at their meeting - they meet on Mondays at 7 pm. We discussed making this a more involved opportunity like an "environmental apprenticeship" with expectation that a student will attend multiple maintenance events, and we could provide a certificate at end. It was agreed that we are looking for only about 2 people and to start in February or so. Committee concurred that we will discuss in further detail at our November meeting, to plan for the December meeting of the school service club.

New Business

- Margaret mentioned that there is an election coming on November 5. We should all research candidates and get out to vote. We should keep the environment in mind when making electoral choices. Ask at library for help researching, or use the League of Women Voters "Smart Voter" website (www.smartvoter.org).
- Ken presented a letter dated 10/13 from a Springfield resident that was sent to multiple recipients in the Township government, including Ken. The letter was regarding an apparent increase in erosion near the Country Club that is causing flooding issues on the resident's property. **Ken will scan the letter and email it to committee. Todd will contact Dan Lanciano and see if there is any advisory role for the committee.**
- Regarding the bamboo ordinance that was mentioned at the September meeting: Ken has not yet received that yet. Ken stated that he believes the ordinance hasn't been approved yet but he will check.

Upcoming Events:

- 11/7 – Annual CRC banquet and awards dinner. More info at <http://crcwatersheds.org/events/view/149>
- 11/9 – "Watershed RoundTable: Sharing Best Practices" will occur on November 9, 2013 at the Cusano Center at the John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge. More info: <http://www.dcva.org/dcva35.pdf>

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 26, 2013, 7:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Hilsbos