

## **Meeting Agenda and Minutes**

### **I. Call to Order, Attendees, Agenda, Minutes**

- a) Attendees and any new members/interest

Attending: Bill Silverstein, Paul Jacobs, Ken Rose, Krikor Panossian (by Zoom), and Shaina Barnes with guest, Ralf Graves. Apologies: Jane Miluski, Mike Krauss, Cory Salmon, Alex Morrison, David Grady, and Marty Molloy.

- i) Approval of the agenda and minutes (May 25, 2022, prepared by Ken Rose)

The agenda was approved as distributed. There was one correction to the minutes of the May 25, 2022 meeting: regarding the Boy Scout meeting recycling that was held on May 16, 2022, both Jane Miluski and Paul Jacobs attended this meeting. The meeting minutes have been revised.

### **II. New Business**

- a) Bird Town PA intro by Ralf Graves, NPT Parks Commission

Ralf Graves is a member of the NPT Parks Commission and chairs the Advocacy Committee of the Valley Forge Audubon Society. Ralf provided an overview of the Audubon Bird Town designation scheme and reported that the NPT Commissioners have already adopted a resolution supporting application (<https://pa.audubon.org/how-does-my-municipality-become-bird-town>).

For a municipality to be designated a Bird Town, the municipality must complete an application and satisfy at least 5 of the following criteria:

- Have an Environmental Advisory Board, Sustainability Committee or similar
- Have a park system with natural habitat for birds
- Have park planning that seeks to improve bird habitat
- Offer environmental educational programming for the public
- Have at least one environmental ordinance in place, such as a native plant ordinance, an IPM ordinance, updated "weed law", buffer zone, etc.
- Currently has Tree City, Trail Town, Transitional Town, Sustainable City, Heritage Town (or similar) status.
- Partners with local environmental organizations such as nature centers, Audubon chapters, Master Gardeners and other groups, etc. to provide regular programming.
- Has adopted a Bird Town resolution
- Municipality and/or EAC regularly bring in speakers addressing environmental issues related to land use, sustainability, energy, etc.
- Municipality regularly plants new native trees in parks or other public land.
- Municipality has planned or created a demonstration garden on public property.

The EAC agreed to support this initiative and identify one EAC member to work with Ralf and other committee members to progress the application. Following discussion about potential

members with the right expertise and experience, Bill Silverstein agreed to contact Alex Morrison to see if she would represent the EAC on the Bird Town Application Committee. If Alex is not available, another member will be identified. The EAC also encouraged the Application Committee to look into applying for a Bee City USA designation because the Bird Town and Bee City objectives are expected to be quite similar and complementary. (<https://beecityusa.org/>)

The EAC thanked Ralf Graves for joining the meeting and inviting EAC's participation in the Bird Town application process.

- b) Recent and Upcoming events
  - i) Delco Municipal Waste Advisory Committee listening sessions (4/28 Guiding Principles, 5/26 Zero Waste Initiatives, 6/30 Draft Plan Elements)

Bill Silverstein noted that the next meeting of the DMWAC listening sessions will be held on June 30. Ken Rose agreed to monitor this meeting because Bill Silverstein will not be available.

- c) All Other New Business

### **III. Old Business and Open Issues** (organized per planning document with priority items noted)

#### Waste Minimization, Recycling, & Disposal (Zero Waste)

- a) Plastic bag ordinance – Media May 19 draft and planned June discussion., Haverford passed 4/11 (for 1/2023)

The EAC continues to monitor the status of plastic bag ordinances in nearby municipalities including Media, Treddyfrin, Easttown Township, and Haverford. The EAC will ask David Grady to contact Media Borough to find out the status and timing of their ordinance.

- b) Delco Municipal Waste Advisory Committee - Consider NPT needs/desires as an EAC
- c) NPT waste team?

The EAC discussed the status of the DMWAC and the DCSWA. At this point, there is no specific action for the EAC regarding NPT waste issues but we should continue to monitor the waste-related activities. The EAC will ask David Grady to talk to Swarthmore Borough to find out how much Swarthmore pays for trash collection and how their costs relate to NPT.

- d) Video and shared learning on recycling via Green Advisors

Paul Jacobs and David Grady have submitted a renewal application to continue in Swarthmore College's Green Advisor Program. A response to the application is expected in August.

#### Clean, Renewable Energy by 2050

- e) Promote energy minimization
- f) Actionable projects (energy audit, muni garage solar, EV vehicle planning)

The EAC discussed potential plans for energy minimization and renewable energy in NPT. Paul Jacobs agreed to look for NPT information on 2023/24 capital budget that could relate to these

energy topics. The EAC will also ask David Grady for any additional information. Paul Jacobs questioned whether a starting point might be installing an EV charging station at Furness Library.

#### Climate Change Action Plan

- g) Manage stormwater plans – any specific action?

There was no information on this agenda item.

#### Use of Native Plants (and Open Spaces)

- h) Furness Park invasive species management plan.

There was no information on this agenda item.

- i) Consider public education on mosquito spraying

This topic could be appropriate for a future NPT Newsletter. The EAC would like some guidance on the timing for newsletters during the remainder of 2022.

#### EAC Connections to Commissioners, Other Organizations, and Municipalities

- j) DCSWA outreach to COG (Council of Governance) - UP Twp Manager

#### Education and Outreach to NPT Residents

- k) Swarthmore Green Advisors program proposal (Paul and David)

- l) Next NPT newsletter/communications (topics and timing)

**I. Meeting Adjournment** - Next Meeting: July 27 at 7 PM (4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at 7)