

**MINUTES FOR ROSE VALLEY ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL  
MEETING OF JUNE 23, 2020**

Note: This meeting was conducted online with Zoom due to Covid-19.

**ATTENDANCE:**

EAC Members: Leonard Busby (Interim Chair), Jim Audley, Chris Bourke, Monica Gagliardi, Roger Latham, Ron Ploeg,

EAC Associate Members: Katherine Rubin, Mario Bacchia

Borough Council Representative to the EAC: Dave Firn

Community Members: Bill Hale (Borough Council President), Judy Voet (Borough Council Member), Stephanie Middleton (Borough Planning Commission Chair), Karen Beaman, Andy Holston, David Shaw

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 pm by Leonard

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

February Minutes Approved

The May Minutes were discussed and tabled for further review; Leonard and Jim to compare notes and resubmit

**ROSE VALLEY ROAD PATH/TRAIL:**

Since last meeting, the Marketing Package, prepared by consultant Bob Thomas with guidance from Monica has been reviewed by members. Numerous comments were submitted and were received by Mr. Thomas. The EAC moved to forward the document to Borough Council with the EAC's unanimous support as a concept document and with the recommendation that Borough Council approve a Steering Committee that would include representatives from Borough Council, the Planning Commission, the EAC, and other Community representatives who can collectively work on details to recommend to Borough Council.

**POISON IVY TREATMENT:**

Katie Rubin received a quote from Weeds Inc. for spot spraying 5 ft. on either side of trails in Saul Preserve (estimated cost: \$315). The proposed scope of application at Chadwick Preserve

is at the proposed new trail head – an area approximately 20x30 ft. (estimated cost: \$125) . Katie will be the point person to move this operation forward after approval of expenditure by Council or its designee – Dave Firn.. Katie will prepare and install warning signage and post online community notification.

### **OTHER INVASIVES:**

- **Knotweed.** The community has made good progress pulling remaining weakened knotweed by hand. A reevaluation will be made later regarding the need for spraying and possible chemicals to use, if any.
- **Stiltgrass.** There is some present at places where ground has been cleared. Pre-emergent spray has been ineffective. The best approach for eradication according to Roger will be to plant taller shady shrubs that will grow to at least 5 ft.
- **Mile-a-minute.** Control alternatives will be discussed in the future.
- **Lantern Fly.** The lantern fly is becoming more wide-spread in Rose Valley. There was discussion of renewed trap tree injections of insecticide at the Saul Preserve of a male Ailanthus and an Amur Cork. Some follow up is needed. Karen Beaman asked for help/advice regarding treating an Ailanthus for control of lantern flies on her private property in Long Point.

### **CHADWICK TRAIL DEVELOPMENT:**

Since the last EAC meeting, some members of the Long Point community provided comments about the proposed upper trail. In response to those comments the starting location for the proposed trail was relocated to provide more distance from residential properties. The switchback was relocated to be further from Ridley Creek and on a less steep slope. The EAC is in favor of the creation of a loop trail that will improve access to interesting features in the Chadwick Preserve. Some expressed the hope that with greater human use, especially dog walkers, the deer presence will diminish in the Preserve. The EAC unanimously voted to request that Borough Council authorize creation of the Loop Trail. Dave Firn agreed to present the plan at Council's next meeting. Motion passed.

### **DEER MANAGEMENT:**

Discussion of drone or game cameras to measure deer population was tabled due to lack of time.

### **CONNECTION OF OLD MILL PARKING LOT TO LONG POINT:**

Leonard discussed the possibility of placing stones in Ridley Creek so people could walk between the Old Mill and Long Point. Discussion to be continued.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40PM

### **Items for action or further discussion:**

ITEM	ACTION PLAN OR MATTERS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION	RESPONSIBLE
May meeting minutes	Revise and submit for review	Jim/Leonard
Chadwick Loop Trail	Present to Borough Council	Dave/ Leonard
	Construct Switchback	Jim
Poison Ivy	Get sign locationS to Katie	Jim
	Approve Expenditure	Dave
	Arrange for application of herbicide; post notice signs; arrange for email notification to Borough residents	Katie
Knottweed	Evaluate use of herbicides	Roger
StiltGrass	Consider the planting of shade shrubs	TBD
Mile-a-minute weed	Pull	TBD
Lantern Fly	Inject Trap Trees	TBD
	Provide Contractor name to Karen Beaman	Chris
Deer Pop. Survey	Decide on whether to recommend and, if so, discuss best approach	EAC
Long Point Bridge	Evaluate Alternatives	TBD
June Meeting Minutes	Prepare for review	Jim

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Audley, Acting Secretary (484 574 9576, [jimaudley@aol.com](mailto:jimaudley@aol.com))