

Rose Valley Borough Environmental Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Date: 10/27/2020

Time: 7:30-9:30

Location: Zoom Meeting

Attendees (Members):

Leonard Busby (acting chair)

Monica Gagliardi

Roger Latham

Ron Ploeg

Jim Audley

Chris Bourke

Katie Rubin

Borough Council EAC Liason:

Dave Firn

Associate Members:

Cynthia McPherson

Byron Sherwood

Rose Valley Borough

Debra DeMasi, Rose Valley Borough Council

Judy Voet, Rose Valley Borough Council

Vippy Yee (Zoom Host and Rose Valley Borough Council)

David Shaw

Tina DiChiara

Cheryl Harner & Malcolm McAr

Marya Thompson Bradley

Kelley Walker

John Lewis

Debbie Timblin

Notes:

1. Vippy discussed capabilities of the new and improved the new WIC.com information platform that the Borough is installing. The EAC will have enhanced capabilities through this platform including the capability of creating sub groups and connection to the Facebook page. Roger, Monica, Katie and Jim will be involved in the development of the EAC portion of the site. November 22 is the date by which Vippy must migrate the borough website.
2. Leonard called the meeting to order and the minutes from the August 25 and September 23 meetings were approved.
3. Jim reported that the trail building project at the Chadwick preserve was a success. Over 20 volunteers were involved with a number of new participants from the borough. The Chadwick work will continue on October 31 and November 1. Jim gave special thanks to Katie for drumming up volunteers.
4. The Saul Preserve dates are November 7th and 8th and November 14th and 15th, 2020 from noon until 4 PM. Cost may be slightly over the estimated \$2,500 budget.
5. The proposed signage, bulletin boards at Chadwick and Saul Preserves were discussed with general support for the kiosk design submitted by Jim Audley. It was suggested that Blue Twig Design (Holly Harper) continue to be involved in the development of signage and that John Curtis be involved in the construction of the kiosk. The EAC proposed budget was \$10,000.
6. Deer Management program was addressed. Justin Franks, who has been by far the most successful hunter in years past was confirmed to be the sole hunter this winter for a hunt that would be of limited duration. The only location to be hunted is the Todmorden Woods area within the Borough. The proposed dates were November 30th through December 12th, 2020 and January 4th through January 23rd, 2021 with the hours being between dawn until 9 AM and 2PM until dusk. A motion was made and the motion was passed. It was also determined that it would be beneficial if Justin could meet with EAC members and interested residents to discuss the hunt.
7. Katie discussed the desirability of spraying the knotweed via Weeds Inc. While the use of herbicides is not ideal, on balance, it was agreed that the effort was necessary. Katie expressed the view that no spraying should be done on the immediate streambank. It was noted that only non- detergent pesticides would be used in sensitive areas. Leonard, Roger and Dave volunteered to endeavor to be there during any spraying to help safeguard the existing native plantings.
8. In the interest of time, other invasives agenda items (Stiltgrass, Spotted Lanternfly, Poison Ivy, Mile-a-Minute), Preserve Maintenance, and Tree City were tabled for a future meeting

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Bourke