

WNEAC Meeting Minutes-May 2022

Attendees: EAC Donna Suevo, Shari Donath, Sue Devenny, Richard Cole, Barbara Pollarine; Commissioner Martin Miller; resident Marie John

-Motion was made and accepted to approve the March and April 2022 meeting minutes

-Group discussed the next steps in the process for moving forward with the proposed plastic bag ban for the township. At last meeting, EAC, two township commissioners and residents attended presentation by representative of Penn Environment. Based on that, it was suggested that a presentation be made by the EAC at the next township commissioners meeting on June 7 at 7 pm.

-Group commented on the multiple recent plastic bag bans put into place in Philadelphia, the state of New Jersey, several townships in Chester County and local retailers moving towards doing it on their own such as Wegman's.

-Richard Cole, EAC member, is developing presentation for the commissioners. Topics suggested by the group to include in the session included environmental and human damage being done by the use and degradation of these plastics; information from other communities about how ban is enforced; the need for a transition period for doing away with plastic bags; completing a survey of local businesses regarding their thoughts on the proposed ban; preparing and posting/distributing a fact sheet of why to ban plastic bags and benefits resulting; prepare and submit a letter to the editor of the Times Herald regarding a need for a ban. Richard and Shari are also collecting sample ordinances for commissioners to consider in drafting an ordinance for West Norriton.

-Discussion was held to determine next article by EAC for What's Up West Norriton. It was decided that the battery recycling program be the topic. Donna Suevo, EAC chair person, will write the article.

-Discussion was held about moving forward with the native plant demonstration garden on the grounds of the Township building which was approved by the township manager several months ago. Shari Donath and Sue Devenny will be selecting the site and working with others to plan and install the garden.

-Commissioner Miller mentioned to the group that they might consult with the staff at the township golf course about tips for the garden as they have bee hives established on the grounds. Bee keeping is also quite beneficial to the environment coupled with native plantings.

-Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Next Meeting: July 6, 2022 at 7 pm.