Environmental Advisory Council Meeting
Unapproved Minutes April 9, 2025
Held in East Fallowfield Township Building

Attendees: John Nielsen, Tanner Burns, Teri Dickinson, Jeanne Berlin, Paul Brenner, Robert Deist, Barb Root, Lauri Hyers
Absent: Charles Reed, Roger Mustalish, Katja DiRado

Meeting called to order at 6:30
Approval of February 2025 Minutes will be tabled until May (there was no meeting in March). JB will resend unapproved February minutes.

1. Tote Bags- JN priced the reusable bags at VistaPrint. For approximately 200 bags, the cost will be $3-$4 per, assuming we are not ordering bags made of plastic. We are looking at jute or cotton/ canvas. Examples of reusable bags were passed around. Bags will have our EAC logo, plus the names of sponsors. Hopefully they will be ready for the first concert in the park. The size of the bags were discussed, including the possibility of getting two sizes. JN will work on the design and share with the group.
2. Visitor- JN introduced Barb Root to the group. She has a history in Environmental Justice and tribal work.
3. Park Cleanup- East Fallowfield Park cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, April 12 from 9:00 until noon. Brandywine Cleanup is the same day, beginning at 8am in Modena.
4. Lawn to Meadow- A grant will be applied for to develop the corner of EF Park, closest to 7Ts Pizza.... so, Park & Rec is discussing other areas of the Township where a 2-acre lawn to meadow conversion might be installed. TD discussed the problems with maintaining the existing native plant garden in the park (Tag's Garden), including the lack of volunteers. JN shared that tree planting is a large part of his current Master Watershed training. Interfaith Power and Light will be supplying 23 potted trees for the park at no charge.
5. Meeting Change- Future EAC meetings will officially move to the second Wednesday of each month. This change will be published and advertised. The next meeting will be May 14.
5. Recycling info- TD shared information about a source for recycling-themed "swag". TD also shared that Amy and Jeff Burke attended a Park & Rec meeting. The Burkes explained that their business here in East Fallowfield makes plastic lumber from recycled plastic, specifically bags and other items not collected by the township's recycling program. They discussed donating a park bench made from this lumber, in exchange for the township highlighting their business.
6. Pond Watch- Brian Carlin will be meeting with Park & Rec to discuss the condition of the pond in EF Park. It's possible that the inlet supplying water may be clogged.
7. New Business-

Lanchester Landfill Tour- JN will look into scheduling a tour for the EAC; most of the group expressed interest in attending.

Bobolink- JB shared information about the local group, the Grassland Bird Collaboration. JN spoke to Zoe Warner and she explained that the native bird species, the Bobolink, needs grassland to build their nests. If we can delay the first haying of the field at the park until July, 80% of the nesting birds would have an opportunity to fledge. TD offered to find out the name of the farmer that hays the field, and make the request.

Flood Study- JN is collecting information from township residents who have experienced flooding recently. This will be sent to the county. Some subjects discussed were residential trash runoff, risk to industrial train track infrastructure, traffic risks, and how wildlife is affected.

Motion to adjourn by PB, seconded by JN. Meeting adjourned at 8:30.
Next meeting will be Wednesday, May 14 at 6:30.