

EAC August 18, 2026

Members in Attendance: Grant Alger, Kirstyn Gudknecht, Steve Nelson, Dave Riedel, Chris Candido, and John Thomas. Grant Rowe, Sustainability Coordinator, was also in attendance.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm.

Approval of Minutes, May 19, 2026 & July 21, 2026: Both minutes were approved as submitted.

Reports

- **New EAC Member:** Grant A. asked new EAC member, Chris Candido, to introduce himself and welcomed him to the EAC. Chris shared that his background is in the automotive industry but he is shifting direction a bit, and—now with some additional time—is excited to be on the Council.
- **DCAP Priority Actions**
 - **DCAP Action Item Handouts (Magnets and Bookmarks):** Grant R., Sustainability Coordinator, shared that an undergraduate student, Sydney, shadowed over part of the summer and created various designs for potential DCAP handouts, including a magnet and bookmark. He reviewed these designs and asked the EAC for their opinions on which item is preferred to print, e.g. a refrigerator magnet or a bookmark. Grant R. also shared a list of climate actions that Emma created for these designs. Following discussion, the members of the EAC decided to review all this information again at the September meeting with a preference for a magnet.
 - **Policy Advocacy (Letter):**
 - Grant R. reminded the EAC that, out of the high priority/short-term action items in the DCAP, the EAC is focusing on two main themes: converting buses to electric and promoting renewable energy. To pioneer these ideas, the EAC had hoped to reach out to the Central Bucks School District. Grant R. checked in with Doylestown Borough regarding this idea and, while supportive, Borough staff suggested reaching out to other EACs within Central Bucks School District and building support, e.g. a coalition of sorts, prior to reaching out. Grant R. shared that there are 9 municipalities, excluding Doylestown Borough, in the District and that 7 have Environmental Advisory Councils. He suggested that the Doylestown Borough EAC follow this plan and begin by reaching out to these municipalities.
 - Grant R. also highlighted the sustainability initiatives already undertaken within the Central Bucks School District. Specifically, he highlighted the variety of solar arrays the District has already installed. He compared it to Doylestown Borough's solar projects and noted that these arrays are relatively small, meaning more can be installed, and that some appear to be slightly outdated. Further, because the District has already investigated solar in the past, there may be interest in exploring more in the future.
 - Grant R. reviewed grant funding available for solar and highlighted that the Solar for Schools program received new state funding for 2027, meaning the EAC has time to plan out this project in more detail. He also offered information regarding electric buses, specifically the Alternative Fuels Incentive Grant (AFIG).
 - The EAC discussed these options. Steve recommended that Grant R. also

check in with Borough Council member(s) on this initiative. Grant R. agreed to do this. Dave offered support for this approach, recommending the Borough host the EAC summit sometime next year (2027) with this theme (renewable energy and electrification) as the focus. Grant A. suggested that the EAC aim to get a letter sent to Central Bucks School District as soon as possible to allow them the most time possible to review potential funding. Steve agreed. Grant R. offered to write a draft letter to other EACs and to bring it to the next meeting. The EAC could discuss said letter and send it to EACs prior to the new year. Thus, the EACs could start this project ASAP. The members of the EAC agreed.

- **Outreach & Communications**

- **Website Enhancements:** Grant R. shared that he is continuing to work on and evaluate the website, including adding information on recycling (hard to recycle items) and compost.
- **Farmers Market:**
 - Grant A. updated the EAC regarding the August Doylestown Township EAC and Doylestown Borough EAC farmers market collaboration. The Doylestown Borough EAC discussed continuing the collaboration in the future and/or collaborating with other (in addition to Doylestown Township) municipalities in the future. Following conversation, Dave made a motion to offer a rolling (continuous) invitation to have Doylestown Township join the Borough at the farmers market. John seconded the motion and all were in agreement. Following this motion, Grant R. agreed to check into this to make sure staff were in support.
 - Outside of joint tabling, Kirstyn suggested that the EAC put something together, e.g. a graphic of sorts, to help farmers market attendees determine what municipality they live within.
 - Steve agreed to table in September, Chris agreed to table in October, Grant A. tentatively agreed to join Chris in October, and Kirstyn agreed to table in November.

- **EAC Collaboration Ideas**

- **Film Decision:** The EAC discussed films for a community film screening on October 22nd in the new Borough event space at 7pm. They discussed a few different film options and selected “Last of the Nightingales” and “Feathers in Flight.” Grant A. and Kirstyn offered to look into some potential panelists for a post-film discussion. Chris shared that Delaware Valley University may have a professor of interest.

- **Park Habitat Enhancements**

- **PECO Green Region Open Space Program:** Grant R. gave an overview of the Borough Green Region Grant award and proposed work, including no-mow areas, invasive removal (inventorying and treatment), and bird and bat boxes. Grant A. suggested that the Borough add or develop communications around this project. Dave seconded this. Grant R. agreed to work on this, from social media to physical signage.
- **Chapman Park:** Grant R. shared that the educational sign at Chapman Park is officially screwed onto its pole and tightened, work on erosion control is ongoing, and efforts are underway to budget replanting for around the pump track. Grant A. shared that he has a connection to a Master Watershed Steward. John added that he is still working with his contact on erosion control.
- **Pocket Forest:** Grant R. shared that he was approached by two students interested

in starting a pocket forest project in the Borough. This is very early on in the planning process but he will keep the EAC updated as/if plans develop. John asked how large the project would be. Grant R. responded that it could be a variety of sizes, including as small as 1,000 square feet. Steve expressed his interest in this project and suggested that perhaps Delaware Valley University be included in the planning.

- **Community Garden:** Grant R. shared that the Borough is exploring the feasibility of expanding its community gardens. This idea is also early on in the planning/feasibility phase and Grant R. will update the EAC as/if plans develop. John asked how long the waiting list for the community gardens is. Grant R. responded that, while he doesn't have exact numbers, both gardens are full.
- **Green Points Update:** Grant R. reviewed the green points program, highlighting slight changes to what is included based on newly adopted building codes by Pennsylvania. Following discussion, Steve made a motion to approve the updated green points program and advance it for Borough adoption with the addendum that Grant R. add in a section for bird friendly/safe glass. Kirstyn seconded the motion and all were in favor.
- **Bird Town:**
 - Grant A. reviewed the Bird City website, sharing his (and other's) work to add information to Doylestown Borough's page on the site. Chris offered to help review this and/or make edits to it in the future.
 - Grant R. reviewed educational material that the Borough is using to promote the "Lights Out" initiative and the areas that he reaches out to each season. He asked the EAC for other areas to investigate and/or to reach out to with educational material. Steve suggested Center Square, Dave recommended Acme and Target, and Kirstyn suggested that more information could be given to individual homes.
- **Community Composting Opportunity:** Grant R. gave an overview of current Borough compost initiatives, sharing that the Borough is currently working on posting (via D-Mail and social media) a survey related to community interest in compost.
- **Budget Check-In:** The EAC reviewed two events, the WeConserve EAC Conference and the Heritage Conservancy Pollinator Tour. Kirstyn offered interest for the EAC conference and Grant agreed to follow-up with her to ensure she can attend. John offered to be a back-up in case she cannot attend. No one immediately can attend the pollinator tour. Following discussion of the EAC budget, Steve made a motion to use the EAC budget to send an EAC member to each of the events. Thomas seconded the motion and all were in support.
- **Staff Report:** Grant R. asked the EAC members to think about additional projects that he/the Borough can consider going forward, DCAP and beyond.
- **Old/New Business/Public Comment:**
 - **Reduced Parking:** Kirstyn commented that the parking at Wells Fargo has been removed. Grant R. shared that the removal of the parking was due to the property owner terminating the lease.
 - **Accessory Dwelling Units:** Steve gave an update from the Planning Commission, offering an overview of recent work related to accessory dwelling units.
 - **Veterans Mowing:** Grant A. commented that some community members were concerned about mowing that took place at Veterans Park. Grant R. agreed to look into this and shared that he will be working on a mowing plan in the future.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:
Grant Rowe