

Environment and Recreation Committee

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 7, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.

Present: Committee Members Wendy Margolis (Chairperson), Joe Frederick, Dennis Livrone, Building and Zoning Director Karyn Hyland, Council Member Amy Popkin, and Borough Manager John Davis.

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm by Ms. Margolis.

The **Minutes** from June 2, 2022 were approved with a correction.

A **Single-Use Plastics Update** was provided by Ms. Hyland. The EAC is moving along with what was presented to the ERC at their June meeting. The EAC has moved along to the public outreach phase, which includes educational materials and an invitation to a meeting for the members of the community which will be impacted by the Single-Use Plastic Bag ban. An email blast, social media notifications, press release, et cetera are all being prepared to educate the public and invite them to this meeting. The next step is to send out the letters, which the ERC will see a draft of. Ms. Margolis confirmed the official ordinance will not be rolled out immediately after the meeting. This time will be used to our benefit to be completely prepared for the Single-Use Plastic Bag ban. The EAC anticipates holding the educational meeting after their next meeting in August. Mr. Davis is not expecting to receive much pushback from the larger corporate businesses in town, such as Wawa and CVS.

Ms. Popkin noted we may have the most opposition from the small, independent merchants in town, specifically regarding the cost of paper bags or alternative bagging options. Ms. Margolis did add the businesses in town will be given sufficient time to look into alternative methods for packaging. Ms. Hyland stated the reason EAC will be hosting the meeting, rather than Council, is to eliminate the appearance of this being a “done deal” and hopefully make the meeting less contentious and more productive.

Broad Commons Update was provided by Mr. Davis. Generally, the park is in a holding pattern right now. There will be more plantings completed in the fall. Phase two is essentially the playground and picnic tables. We are working primarily with Will Hemler from General Recreation. The drawings have been revised, with the main difference, being the replacement of a merry-go-round with a swing set. We received clarification on the specifics of the audible playground equipment. Total cost does not include installation, since the Borough will be doing that work ourselves. In answer to a question, Mr. Davis confirmed there will be no additional costs or changes to our insurance as well.

Old/New Business: None

Adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 6:39 pm.