

## **Borough of Doylestown**

### **Environmental Advisory Council**

#### **Minutes of the meeting held Tuesday, May 21, 2019**

**Attendance:** Adam Howell, Karyn Hyland, Kristin Winters, Steve Rubenstein, David Kapturowski, George Mullikin

**1) Call to Order:** Steve R. called the meeting to order at 7:38 pm.

**2) Approval of Minutes:** David K. made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting and George M. seconded. The minutes were approved as written.

#### **3) Arbor Day Tree Giveaway**

- Some members of the committee helped hand out trees to those who visited the farm market. The giveaway went well. All of the trees – redbuds, sycamores, and sugar maples – were given out. Most of the people who took trees were residents.

#### **4) Presentation Recap**

- Jordan Y.'s presentation from last month was very helpful in providing an understanding of the various levels of regulations which can be enforced by different types of municipalities. It will provide guidance as we move forward with our single-use plastics project.

#### **5) Single-Use Plastics**

- The goal for our group to have information together regarding this project is June. If needed, we may push our deadline back to July. When we have our preliminary recommendations together, Borough Council will move forward with the next steps.
- Karyn H. reported that a group from the Borough met with Narberth representatives in the last month to discuss their single-use plastics program. The program was primarily driven by volunteers and some business owners. There is only one chain business in their municipality. One takeaway from the meeting was that the program is more successful if businesses are given clear guidance.
- Some members of the group contributed to and wrote a draft of the preamble for our program. The group reviewed the preamble with some updates.
- As discussed at our last meeting, we are currently planning only to address straws and plastic bags in our proposal. Styrofoam takeout containers are much more complicated to address, so we will wait on them for now.
- The group agreed that Narberth's approach as far as the timing of the rollout and adoption of the policy makes sense. It gives residents and businesses time to understand the requirements and put them in place.
- Some members of the group and the mayor have reached out to Wawa; we will continue to follow-up on this.
- As for recommendations, we can use the Narberth document as a template to create our own list of recommendations which are specific to the Borough.

- Chain establishments and some businesses (e.g. milkshakes, smoothies) may resist a complete ban on plastic straws, but we can encourage them to provide alternatives such as paper straws or self-serve straws (so customers only take them if they want them). We can use the Narberth wording to “prohibit” straws but include “unless requested” or alternatives such as paper straws.
- The group agreed to use the Narberth document as a starting point. We will amend it as needed. Kristin W. and George M. will split the Narberth document to type it into a Word doc and send it to the group to make changes relevant to the Borough.
- We will not present our document at the EAC Summit on 6/12 since it will not yet be finalized. However, we can discuss that we are using the Narberth document as a starting point.
- The next steps are to finalize the draft ordinance and begin drafting a rollout plan overview in June and to finalize the rollout plan July. The preamble, draft ordinance, and rollout plan overview will then be forwarded to Borough Council.

**Old/New Business:**

**6) Memorial Day Float**

The group’s float has been accepted into the Memorial Day Parade this upcoming Monday. Steve R. and George M. will put the float together on Saturday 5/25 at Steve R.’s house; Adam H. and David K. may help if they are available.

**7) Adjournment:** George M. moved to adjourn the meeting, and Steve R. seconded that motion. The meeting was adjourned by common consent at 9:02 pm.

**8) Next Meeting:** The next EAC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 18, 2019 at 7:30 pm in the Doylestown Borough Hall.