

# DRAFT

## Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

June 27, 2023

### PRESENT

**Henry Alexander** *Chair*  
**Dorothy Verdon** *Secretary*  
**Susan Charkes** *Member*  
**Barbara Rinehart** *Member*  
**Tinamarie Smith** *Township Supervisor*  
**Chris Bashore** *Township Manager*

### ABSENT

**Ashley Gagné** *Township Supervisor*  
**Melanie Vile** *Vice Chair*  
**Natalie Caruso** *Member*  
**Scott DeLone** *Member*

The monthly meeting of the West Goshen Township (WGT) Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC) convened virtually via GoToMeeting and was called to order by Chair Henry Alexander (HA) at 6:02 p.m. on Tuesday, June 27, 2023.

#### 1. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by Dorothy Verdon (DV) and seconded by Susan Charkes (SC) to approve the May 23, 2023, meeting minutes. All were in favor and the motion carried.

#### 2. ONGOING BUSINESS

##### A. Trees

1. **2023 Tree Plan:** SC reported that she presented the tree plan to the Parks and Recreation Commission (P&R) at their June meeting. It was favorably received. P&R noted that a thirteenth park (South Concord Park) was not included and the proper name for the park in which the tree planting was conducted was Hamlet Crest Park. They also requested that the SAC notify them of any future tree planting or other plans that would take place in the parks. CB stated that the tree plan requirements could be incorporated into the work on the soon-to-be-started recreation and open space plan for which the township has received a \$45,000 VPP grant from the Chester County Planning Commission. It was moved by SC and seconded by DV that the SAC pass the tree plan on to the BoS for its review and possible approval at their July 6 meeting with minor edits recorded and made by DV. Either HA or BR will make the presentation to the BoS.

2. **Further Work on Weeping Beech:** Initial pest control and soil fertilization of the Weeping Beech was conducted by Bartlett this spring. An additional amount of work was proposed by Bartlett that would be completed over a four year period, which consists of pruning and other care. The questions before the SAC are whether the work should be conducted over four years or all at once and whether the work should be set out for bid. If done all at once, it would have to be set out for bid. After considerable discussion, it was decided that the SAC should request a price from Davey Tree Company for the same scope of work proposed by Bartlett and that a decision regarding what to recommend to the BoS would be made at the following SAC meeting. SC volunteered to contact Davey Tree Company to obtain prices. CB will provide to SC a copy of the Bartlett proposals with the prices redacted.

B. **Hamlet Crest Park Reforestation and Naturalization and Follow-up:** BR proposed that a second planting of 90 additional trees in Hamlet Crest Park will be conducted on November 4, 2023 (from 9:00 to 12:00). There was considerable discussion regarding ordering trees to be planted prior to sharing this plan with P&R. Since the trees must be ordered in early July, it was agreed that SC would

submit the order for the trees but that, in the future, we would make sure to include sufficient time to ensure consultation. It was agreed that we would finalize the date for fall planting at the next SAC meeting after checking with other township groups for scheduling conflicts.

- C. Barker Park Larvicide Treatment:** Since Ashley Gagné (AG) could not be at the meeting, discussion was postponed.
- D. July SAC Newsletter:** DV said that the Tree Coverage Study report will be in the July newsletter. HA said that he would provide one of two other articles also.
- E. EV Charging Units: Incorporation into Land Development Ordinances.** HA presented a power point presentation regarding EV charging infrastructure that will be needed to support the transition to EV in the township, the land uses at which charging stations would be needed, and the role of the township is regulating and encouraging this transition. The goal of this investigation was to consider what zoning revisions are needed to guide installation of EV charging infrastructure in new construction.
- F. Discussion of Homegrown National Park Concept:** BR recommended that there be a presentation about the Home Grown National Park concept at one of the township parks prior to the fall planting of the trees at Hamlet Crest Park. She said that she would be glad to run this presentation. CB stated that while P&R does not need to give their approval of such a gathering, they should be notified and, if there is a conflict with something already scheduled by or with P&R, the scheduled activity would take precedence.
- G. Pedestrian Improvements and New Street/Route 322 Intersection:** There was a spirited conversation regarding the desirability and feasibility of facilitating a pedestrian crossing at the intersection of North New Street and the 322 Bypass. SC said that she would look into it further.
- H. Regulation of Application of Lawn Chemicals to Private Properties:** HA stated that he would be writing an article of the July newsletter regarding how persons with hypersensitivity to pesticides can get themselves and their properties listed on the "Do Not Spray" list to avoid being exposed to pesticides where they live or work. DV said that the deadline that she has to get in articles is July 17 and that she would need few days before that for editing.
- I. Township Control of Bamboo:** It was decided that members of the SAC look out for bamboo in the township and will notify CB of any stands of bamboo that they observe that are or may be prohibited by township ordinance 81-2. Also they would assess what further investigation should be performed as needed.

### 3. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Status of Basin Road Sewer Project:** There had been some question as to whether this topic had been requested to be included in the agenda. Apparently no one had made a request and there was no discussion. There is no sewer project; rather it is stormwater control project.
- B. Development of Sustainability Plan:** The SAC had an extended discussion regarding preparing a sustainability plan for the township. Such a plan could be a stand-alone plan or be part of the township comprehensive plan, with all of the required reviews. It was agreed that the

SAC would further consider a sustainability plan and that we should seek the advice of AG, who was unable to be at this meeting.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**5. MOTION TO ADJOURN**

A motion was made by DV and seconded by BR to adjourn. All were in favor and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

**6. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the SAC is scheduled for Tuesday, August 22, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. This meeting will be virtual.

Respectfully submitted on July 13, 2023, by Henry Alexander, Chair, SAC.