

## **MINUTES FOR THE ROSE VALLEY EAC MEETING OF NOVEMBER 26, 2024**

### **Attendance:**

EAC Voting Members: Leonard Busby, Chair; Roger Latham, Vice-Chair; Ron Ploeg; Cindy McPherson; Olivia Nnadi; Katie Rubin

Other Attendees: Bill Hale, Mayor

### **Call to Order:**

Leonard called the meeting to order at 7:37 PM.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Roger moved, and Olivia seconded that the minutes for the EAC meetings of July 23 and October 22 be approved. The motion was approved unanimously.

### **Report on Rain Garden educational Zoom seminar presented by the Pennsylvania Resources Council (PRC) for the benefit of Rose Valley Borough Residents:**

Katie reported that 15 people attended this Zoom presentation. A recording of this Zoom presentation will in due course be posted to the EAC portion of the Borough website. The presentation by PRC was about one hour long and represented a basic introduction to the benefits of rain gardens, including the environmental complications resulting from grass lawns.

Roger shared that he owned the domain “RoseValleyEAC.org” and that he would be happy to donate it to the Borough. The renewal rate is \$20.99, due each year in April

### **Report on Borough Council decision regarding proposed EAC budget for 2025:**

Leonard reported that Borough Council had voted to include the entire requested EAC budget of \$20,275, including the specific budgeted expenditures as reported in the EAC minutes for the October 22 meeting.

### **Report on Borough Council action as regards a possible ordinance to address noise and other issues regarding domestic fowl, including roosters:**

Leonard said that he planned to circulate a draft Ordinance for review and discussion before the December Borough Council meeting. Leonard said that any ordinance is intended as a backstop as regards roosters if neighbors are unable to agree as regards the removal of a rooster. Leonard said that he hoped that any ordinance would eventually represent best practices as regards the care and ownership of domestic fowl in our Borough.

**Appreciation of Byron Sherwood's service as an EAC Voting Member and his approval as an Associate EAC member:**

Leonard and others expressed appreciation for Byron's years of service as an EAC Voting Member. Roger then moved, and Katie seconded, that Byron Sherwood become an Associate Member of the EAC in light of his decision to resign as an EAC Voting Member because of new out-of-state work responsibilities. The motion passed unanimously.

**Report on EAC Voting Member vacancy:**

Leonard invited all people who are interested in serving as an EAC Voting Member to get in touch with him and Leonard said that he would keep current EAC Voting Members fully informed of the process.

**Report on status of Deer Management Plan:**

Leonard said that because of inadvertent oversight on his part, there was no notice in the Agenda for the November Borough Council Meeting of a vote on the deer management plan that the EAC had approved and recommended to Borough Council. A vote will now take place at the December meeting of Borough Council. Because of the delay in voting there will be no deer management plan in place until January of 2025.

**Community Outreach and Education initiatives planned by the EAC for 2025:**

Katie said that she is planning another child-friendly and focused educational event in 2025 with Stroud Water Research Center that will include leaf packs. The event with Stroud in 2024 that used leaf packs to help assess the environmental health of Ridley Creek was considered a great success.

Katie shared that leaders of the Rose Valley Gardeners are excited about developing plans for a demonstration rain garden at the bottom of the Pew Park triangle. Katie is pursuing plans to create a short video documentary of any eventual rain garden installation, assuming that plans are approved in due course by the Rose Valley Gardeners, the EAC, and eventually Borough Council. The goal will be to try to achieve less rain water run-off after installation of the rain garden.

Katie invited everyone to recommend additional educational ideas to her. Reference to education about composting was made.

Katie requested information about access to a copy of the Borough's MS4 Plan (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System). Leonard said that he would look into this. Reference was made to funds delivered to the Borough from a Monsanto Class Action settlement being used for rain gardens.

#### **Discussion about stray animals:**

There was brief discussion about what was the legal responsibility, if any, of the Borough as regards stray pets. Reference was made to the Brandywine SPCA contracting with some municipalities to provide certain services for stray pets that are found.

#### **Update regarding the EAC component of the Borough website:**

Olivia reported that the EAC component of the Borough website will soon be ready to "go live." Great appreciation was expressed by all.

#### **Adjourn:**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:15 PM.