

# WEST READING ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL



---

500 Chestnut St. West Reading PA, 19611 - (610) 374-8273

## **MEETING MINUTES : JANUARY 24TH, 2022**

### **Members Present:**

Chairperson - Patrick Kaag, Ryan Lineaweaver, Jim Keller, Samantha Kaag, Borough Manager - Dean Murray

### **Call to Order:**

Mr. Kaag called the meeting at 6:03pm

### **Public Comment:**

None

### **Approval of Minutes:**

Moved by Ryan Lineaweaver and seconded by Samantha Kaag to approve the minutes for October 25th, 2021. Motion Carried

### **Community Education Ideas - Social Media:**

Ms. Kaag offered to pick up on social media to reach out for volunteers to join EAC, educate the public on what can be recycled and what cannot, and other EAC related items. Mr. Keller also showed interest in being involved socially.

Ms. Kaag brought up reinstating and advertising the lawn refuse drop off this coming year. Mr. Lineaweaver reminded members that we need to bring it to council to reapprove. Mr. Murray commented that he believes it is beneficial to the borough and would be further successful with the proper advertising.

A recommendation was made to take it to council. Ms. Kaag made a motion recommending to continue lawn refuse drop off, the first Saturday of the month from 9am - 12pm, April through November to council for approval and was seconded by Mr. Keller. Motion carried.

Mr. Keller suggested creating a video in the spring regarding recycling. Members agreed this would be a good idea and plans will be made accordingly.

**Monthly Clean-ups - Blocks, Penn Ave, Creek/Park, Docks, etc. :**

Monthly clean ups were discussed to continue the effort to keep the borough cleaner through out the year instead of only twice a year.

Ms. Kaag is taking lead on what we are naming the Barnhardt Bucket Brigade, aka the 'BBB Project' in honor of Former Councilman and Mayor Kevin Barnhardt's cleaning efforts and whom Mr. Kellers brother also former Mayor Shane Keller helped with. It will officially be started in April of 2022 and go until November of 2022. Ms. Kaag will make maps and schedule out different sections to focus on per month. Mr. Murray suggested an 'adopt the block' program and Ms. Kaag suggested paring with businesses for contests to promote cleaning within the borough. Ms. Kaag will have an update and plan at next meeting.

**Training & Resources:**

Mr. Kaag suggested that EAC Members take initiative to join in some of the free resources and zoom options for education regarding EAC. There are many options and resources out there for members to gain knowledge about specifics or broad ideas/discussions to bring to meetings. Links are at the bottom of the agenda and can be shared via email to members or on social media in general.

WeConservePA is having a EAC network conference on February 26th, 2022. Mr. Kaag and Ms. Kaag have signed up to take notes and bring back what they have learned along with any resources to EAC. Members that would like to attend may do so on their own accord. It was suggested to check out the weconservepa resources.

Mr. Kaag spoke on looking for grants and ideas for grants to help the borough and/or figuring out how/what we can do to qualify for grants to better the borough. Mr. Keller suggested reaching out to Wyomissing or Reading to see how their EAC operates and how we our committees can help each other.

**Adjournment:**

Moved by Mr. Lineaweaver and seconded by Mr. Keller to adjourn the meeting at 6:22pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Samantha Kaag