

West Reading Environmental Advisory Council

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MEETING MINUTES

September 26, 2022

Members Present

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

Call to Order

Mr. Kaag called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made and seconded to approve the minutes of August 22, 2022. Motion carried.

Fall Clean up

The cleanup event of September 18, 2022 was determined to collect greater than 200 lbs. from the borough. Twenty-three volunteers cleaned up the park system, Penn Avenue from end to end and side streets throughout the borough.

Future Discussions

Members of the council discussed different projects and issues that they recommend be addressed in future meetings.

2022 "Healing the Planet" Grant Update

It was announced that West Reading was chosen to receive a grant for the full amount of \$10,000 to be used for removal of trees and debris from the creek as well as reinforcement of the creek banks.

Solar Roofing

A discussion was held between the borough administration and Bachman's Roofing Solar to evaluate the possibility to install solar paneling on different borough owned buildings.

Free-Market/Community Potluck/Hispanic Heritage

The September 25th event was a success with about 80% of the household goods being given away during the event and the remaining goods being delivered to local charities and donation sites. Will have more events like this in the future, perhaps twice a year along with coordination with more organizations.

Monthly MS4 Bulletin

"Storm grate reporting" – informing residents on the importance of notifying Public Works of blocked storm sewer grates/inlets.

Global Update

"Half-life lasers" – a new technique was discovered to reduce harmful toxic waste produced by spent nuclear material. High intensity lasers are now being used to alter the atomic structure of radioactive material to create entirely new material that is not harmful. This will undoubtedly change policy when it comes to nuclear waste and energy moving forward. <https://www.science.org/content/article/lasers-defuse-nuclear-waste>

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick Kaag

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