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# West Reading Environmental Advisory Council

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## MEETING MINUTES April 22, 2019

### Members Present

Chairperson Jenna Hiester; Council Member Patrick Kaag; Residents Karin Long, Ryan Lineaweaver (arrived 6:42 p.m.). Council Member Philip Wert and Jim Keller were unable to attend.

### Visitors

Mark Ratcliffe, Main Street Manager and Samantha Kaag.

### Call to Order

Chairperson Jenna Hiester called the meeting to order at 6:27 p.m.

### Approval of Minutes

Moved by Ms. Long and seconded by Mr. Kaag to approve the minutes of March 25, 2019. Motion carried.

**Earth Day** – Earth Day Cleanup is scheduled on Sunday, April 28, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The following topics were discussed:

- **Donations** – Food donations are still needed for approximately 30-70 anticipated volunteers. Mark Ratcliffe requested information pertaining to costs incurred to assist in covering expenses.
- **Education** – The Recreation Department will provide supplies to craft butterfly and birdhouses for a children's activity. Educational handouts such as living green, a recycling list and spotted lanternfly information will also be provided to the children. An electronic recycling drop-box will be available at the Pavilion.
- **Registration** – Registration for the cleanup will take place at the Pavilion; a laminated map will be used to track the streets being cleaned by volunteers; Keep PA Beautiful provided the gloves, bags and vests, which will be available at the Pavilion and at Made Jewelry on Penn Avenue. Raffle tickets, Fightin' Phils tickets and Fisher's BBQ tickets are being provided by the Recreation Department, also Betula's Botanica and Renewal Kombucha have donated prizes.

**Community Garden** – The following topics were discussed:

- **Garden Plots** – Ms. Hiester stated one plot remains available for the 2019 season.
- **Composting** – A volunteer composting manager is needed. Construction of three 3' by 3' bins was discussed, it was suggested to obtain unwanted pallets to construct these bins. Also, signs are needed to identify the bin currently in use.
- **Mural** – The land use agreement was reviewed, which expires at the end of August. Contact is needed with the owner of the property to discuss a mural in the vicinity of the Community Garden in memory of Dean Rohrbach.
- **Workshop** – The owner of Farmhouse Kitchen currently has an agreement for two plots within the garden and it was suggested to request the owner to demonstrate a workshop.
- **Socials** – Ms. Hiester suggested potluck type BYOB social events in the garden. The first social/picnic was scheduled on Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup> and a second date will be planned in September.
- **Mowing** – A list of dates are available on Facebook for volunteers to mow the garden. The Mayor signed up and took care of the first mowing of the season. Also, a mid-summer cleanup will be scheduled. Ms. Hiester will provide a list of potential dates.

**Playground Program Educational Project** – Discussions were tabled in the absence of the Recreation Director.

**May Meeting** – Due to a conflict of scheduling and the Memorial Day Holiday, members agreed to reschedule the May meeting date from Wednesday, May 29<sup>th</sup> to Monday, May 20, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

**Adjournment** - The meeting adjourned at 7:06 PM.

**Next Meeting: Monday, May 20, 2019 at 6:30PM**