

**Lower Makefield Township  
Environmental Advisory Council**

February 12, 2020

**Meeting Minutes**

Present: Linda Salvati, Chair; Kevin Gallen, Vice Chair, Barbara Baus, Jim Bray; Soumya Dharmavaram, Alan Dresser; Paul Roden, Frederic Weiss, BOS Liaison

Also in attendance was Alexis Powers, LMT Resident

The February 12 meeting of the EAC was called to order at 7:30pm.

**Approval of January 2020 Minutes** – Ms. Salvati moved to approve the January minutes as amended, Mr. Dresser seconded the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. Bray asked to discuss his issues first, as he had to leave early. He provided an overview of the lecture, "What's Bugging Our Trees in Pennsylvania", which will be presented on April 18 in the LMT Municipal Building at 10:00am. Ms. Baus presented the draft flyer she had designed to publicize the event. It was agreed that the appearance was striking and that the format should be used to publicize all EAC flyers.

There was discussion about getting the EAC Facebook page back up. It had been removed by a previous Board of Supervisors. A motion was made that the EAC recommend to the Board that their Facebook page be reestablished. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Mrs. Dharmavaram and Mr. Roden will follow up on this.

**Environmental Stewardship Award** - Mr. Bray reported that the plaque is finished and he will provide Mr. Weiss with a short congratulatory speech for the presentation of the award at the February 19 BOS meeting. Chief Coluzzi will take photos. Mr. Bray mentioned that the \$500 check has not been received. Mr. Weiss said he would follow up on it at the following day's meeting with Mr. Ferguson. Mr. Bray said he would like to see the amount of the award raised to \$1,000. Mr. Ferguson has not been able to find the original resolution. If it remains unavailable, Mr. Bray will draft a new resolution and forward it to the Township Manager and then to the Board of Supervisors.

**Green New Deal Resolution** – The consensus of the Board of Supervisors was that the Green New Deal Resolution, in its current form, is a little overreaching. Mr. Grenier is working with Dylan Tchang to determine the scope of what the Township is able to do.

**Tree Planting 2020 Locations** – The tentative date of the next tree planting is April 25 and will take place at Patterson Farm along the Buck Creek tributary. Ms. Salvati would like to schedule a meeting for February 27 or 28 to get approval for the tree planting. She discussed the need to recruit volunteers. Ms. Powers indicated that she could provide volunteers from the youth lacrosse organization. Ms. Salvati will also ask Ms. Tierney for her suggestions on volunteers.

Ms. Salvati said there will be close to 100 plants, including trees and shrubs, with more shrubs than large trees. This led to a suggestion from Mrs. Dharmavaram that they include more large trees. Discussion ensued. Mrs. Dharmavaram wants to look at MS4 to identify the next priority for tree planting.

Mr. Bray also wants to coordinate a replacement of the three dead trees in the NSEW arboretum at Memorial Park.

**Status of Tree Bank Compliance Ordinance** – Mr. Dresser and Ms. Baus had sent a proposed ordinance and supporting document to the Township Solicitor on January 30, for legal review. Mr. Weiss reported that it is currently under review.

**Land Use Plans** – Mr. Dresser reported on the following:

**Marrazzo Preliminary Plan** – The EAC sent out comments on Marrazzo’s Townhomes Preliminary Plan in a January 14 email. Concerns included the stormwater run-off from the parking lot will go untreated directly into nearby waterways and the lack of infiltration testing to support their stormwater management plan. The Preliminary Plan was recommended for approval by the Planning Comm. on January 27.

**Wintersteen Four Condo Preliminary Plan** – The EAC’s comment letter on the Plan was sent out on January 8. Mr. Dresser reported that the developer, before the Township had approved his development plan, had taken down six large trees at the site. Two had trunks greater than 4 ft in diameter, with one of those being the likely largest Pin Oak in Lower Makefield. Mr. Dresser was concerned and wanted to raise a red flag but Mr. Majewski didn’t consider development activities at the site before Township approval a problem. Developers rule.

**Erin Dobry Road Final Plan** – There is nothing new to report on submittal of the Final Plan. They are currently working on it and the supporting Stormwater Management Report.

**Recycling** – There was some preliminary discussion of how to publicize the April 18 Styrofoam Recycling Event. The styrofoam will be collected in the LMT Municipal Building from 9:30-Noon.

It was agreed that, since there is a business in Langhorne collecting electronics for recycling for free, that we won’t hold our own electronics recycling event in the Spring.

A partnership with TerraCycle is on the list of projects that will be explored. A first step is a visit to the Middletown Township Building to get information about their partnership with TerraCycle.

**Lecture Series** – April 18th lecture “What’s Bugging Our Trees in Pennsylvania” by Penn State Master Gardener Colleen Michaels. Discussed member contribution. To finalize all plans at March meeting.

**Webpage/Newsletter/LMT Facebook** – Ms. Baus’s Lantern Fly writeup, as well as the Free Electronics Recycling flyer will be included in the upcoming electronic newsletter. It was agreed that the EAC page on the LMT website does need updating but there was no discussion about next steps.

**Middletown Township Earth Day** – The annual Earth Day celebration at Core Creek Park is on April 25. We have had a table there in previous years but this year but will not this year because it falls on the day of our Patterson Farm tree planting.

**EAC Network Conference** – The conference is being held on May 2 in King of Prussia. Mr. Gallen will attend.

**Odds and Ends** – Mr. Dresser had recently attended the second meeting of the County's Transitional Energy and Environment Subcommittee. He reported that the Subcommittee is working on a referendum on open space.

Supervisor Weiss received an email from the Wyland Foundation, asking if Lower Makefield would be interested in participating in a contest about saving water. He asked the EAC to let him know if they are interested.

Re: the use of Roundup in the Township, Ms. Salvati has not heard back from Mr. Hucklebridge.

Mr. Gallen had no update on Ready 100.

With no further business to discuss, the February 12, 2020 meeting of the EAC was adjourned at 9:00pm. The next meeting of the EAC will be held on March 12, at 7:30pm, in the LMT Municipal Building.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Salvati, Chairperson