

**Lower Makefield Township
Environmental Advisory Council**

December 16, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Present: Linda Salvati, Chair; Suzanne Blundi, BOS Liaison; James Bray; Soumya Dharmavaram; Alan Dresser; Kevin Gallen; Jonah Rank; Paul Roden

Mr. Bray moved to open the meeting, Mr. Roden seconded the motion and the EAC Zoom meeting was called to order at 6:00pm.

Approval of November EAC Minutes – Mr. Dresser moved to approve the November 24, 2021 EAC minutes, Mr. Roden seconded the motion and the November EAC minutes were approved unanimously. Ms. Salvati will forward the approved minutes to the Township and EAC.

End of Year Review 2020 – Ms. Salvati asked for comments on the completed End of Year Review for 2020. With no comments forthcoming, Mr. Roden moved to approve the 2020 End of Year Review and Mr. Dresser seconded the motion and the 2020 Review was approved unanimously. Ms. Salvati will forward the 2022 End of Year Review to the Township and EAC.

Tree Ordinance – Mr. Bray asked if the members had a chance to review the draft response to the BOS proposed changes to the Tree Ordinance he had forwarded. He asked for any discussion. There being none, Mrs. Dharmavaram entertained a motion to approve the response. Mr. Rank seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. The draft response is now the official EAC response to the BOS proposed changes to the Tree Ordinance.

Ms. Salvati noted that she and Mr. Majewski are still working on the wording for Invasive Species.

Tree Planting – Mr. Dresser and Mr. Bray reported on their tour to identify possible locations for future tree plantings. The tour notes shown below. A formal letter to the BOS with the EAC's recommended 2022 tree planting locations will be drafted and discussed.

Ragan Tract – Mr. Dresser said we expect to get a copy of the Township's MS4 application in the near future and find out if this basin is to be naturalized. If this basin is to be naturalized the low flow concrete channels will be removed. This will have to happen before trees can be planted. This basin is an ideal basin for tree plantings.

Macclesfield Park – They identified many locations for trees for future plantings. Coordination with the sport leagues will have to be done. The planting sites would be spread over a large distance and therefore not ideal for an EAC/volunteer planting.

Makefield Highlands Golf Course – Along the Woodside Road where the long-range tree planting plan had the trees there are electric lines above. Therefore, only short trees could be planted. Construction of a bike path is also planned along Woodside Road. The entrance way to the golf course might be a good place for formal allee of trees.

Patterson Farm – Along Mirror Lake Road and the Buck Creek tributary that parallels the road there will be plantings, big trees done by contractor and shrubs by volunteers. Ms. Salvati noted that there is a lot of white mulberry along the Buck Creek tributary on Patterson Farm. She will talk to Mr. Hucklebridge to find out if some of his staff can do some herbicide spraying.

Kids kingdom – The long-range tree plan had only 8 trees at this location. More trees might be advisable to soften the view.

Memorial Park- There are several locations on the east side of the park where trees could be planted. Linda talked about riparian plantings along the small creek that runs through the center of the property, but she felt that the invasives might have to be treated first. Mr. Dresser suggested that they should think about it and have it on the agenda for the next meeting.

Land Use -

Deck Lot – there was a special Zoning Board meeting on November 30, but it wasn't conclusive. Another is scheduled for December 21.

Bucks County Smiles Office - Zoning Board hearing for variances from wetland buffer and woodlands protections among others was scheduled for Dec. 7th, developer requested delay as they revise proposal, including request for 70 parking spots.

Edgewood Village – They went before the BOS on Dec. 1 and HARP on Dec. 14. Both groups have concerns. It is a ¾ acre lot with two existing homes, 14 apartments in three building and 21 parking spaces will be added. Zoning Board will decide on their variance requests at their Feb. 15th meeting.

Recycling – We are all set for the January 8th Styrofoam/cork/prescription bottle/household batteries collection event at the Township Building parking lot. The Stray Cat Project will be in attendance so we will be keeping the bigger Styrofoam boxes for them.

Recycling in the Parks - After discussion, Mr. Bray made a motion to purchase whichever double trash/recycling bin Monica chooses, not to exceed \$2500. Mr. Roden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mr. Dresser will contact Mrs. Tierney to find out which she prefers. Mr. Bray will contact Five Mile Woods early in the new year to see if they would be willing to try the carry in/carry out approach on a trial basis.

Plastic Bag Reduction – Mr. Rank designed a public survey on plastic bag reduction which will be discussed at our January meeting.

Environmental Stewardship Award – Mr. Bray is finishing up the work to prepare for the presentation of the Environmental Stewardship Award to Heather Guidice of Kona Composting. Ms. Blundi asked Mr. Bray to send her the info on the presentation.

With no further business to discuss, the December meeting of the EAC was adjourned at 7pm. The next meeting of the EAC will be held on Zoom on January 5 at 6PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Salvati, Chairperson