

Lower Makefield Township
Environmental Advisory Council
October 8, 2014
Meeting Minutes

Present: James J. Bray, Chairman
Alan Dresser, Vice Chairman
Mark Bortman, Member
Matthew Conley, Member
Cynthia D'Alessio, Member
Rick Ewing, Member
Paul Roden, Member
Gail Stringer, Alternate Member

Also in attendance: Chloe Coffman, Penn Environment

Mr. Bray called the October 8, 2014 meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council to order at 7:10PM. He introduced Chloe Coffman, of Penn Environment, and explained that she was in attendance to speak about a Penn Environment program.

Approval of September 10, 2014 Meeting Minutes – The September 10, 2014 minutes were approved unanimously, as written.

Open Space Update – There was discussion about whether the application, for an alternate use of the open space grant money from the County, has been submitted by the Township. Mr. Dresser will follow up with Mr. Fedorchak.

Modification to LMT's Street Tree and Replacement Tree Ordinance – This issue was discussed at a recent BOS meeting, when there were no EAC members present. Mr. Bray will contact Mr. Fedorchak to request that the item be on the agenda at an upcoming BOS meeting. Mr. Dresser will prepare a power point presentation, highlighting the features of the proposed modification.

Drainage Basin Project – This year, 8-10 basins have been added to the program. Mr. Bray will draft a letter to the BOS, highlighting the savings that the basin program provides.

Basin Retrofit – Mr. Bortman reported that the retrofit on the Grey Nuns property is almost completed. He believes that the others will be done in two weeks. He noted that all four can be seen from the road and that they will model what a basin should look like.

Penn Environment Presentation – Chloe Coffman provided information on a new program being offered by the EPA. The objective is to get power plants across the country to commit to cutting global warming

pollution, by 30% in Pennsylvania's case. The municipalities can support this effort by proclamations, resolutions, or any other format they prefer. Philadelphia and Pittsburgh have already passed resolutions. Yardley Borough has expressed interest in participating. The emission data from 2005 is being used as the baseline for the 30% reduction. The immediate goal is to get 10 of the largest 20 cities in Pennsylvania to sign on, as well as smaller municipalities. The EAC agreed to sign a version to be drafted by Ms. Coffman. Mr. Ewing will contact Mr. Benedetto to get his input on the best way to get the BOS involved.

Land Use Reviews –

Tracy Wall Issue – The wall has not been removed. Mr. Bray discussed with Mark Eisold and Nancy Frick and found that the plan has been approved.

Heritage Tree Ordinance – There was discussion about finding a different way to protect our heritage trees, other than an ordinance. Mr. Bray, Mr. Dresser and Mrs. D'Alessio will talk to Kristin Tyler about this issue.

Moon Nursery – The EAC is in favor of some form of conservation easement being placed on this property; Mr. Conley provided Mr. Dresser with a template.

Community Center – At a recent meeting, the revised Community Center plans were discussed. Mr. Dresser, representing the EAC, noted that the EAC is happy about the pervious pavement, would prefer the alternate landscaping plan, and encouraged the inclusion of biking paths. It was announced that Ms. Frick will be the Green Building Administrator.

St. Ignatius – Mr. Dresser distributed a draft letter with suggestions for St. Ignatius and asked that the EAC members provide him with any recommendations for additions or changes to the letter.

Tree Tenders – There was discussion of the arboretum that has been discussed for the ballfields on Oxford Valley Road. Mrs. D'Alessio would like to see the BOS make this official by putting up a sign. She feels that this project would be a good one for the Tree Tenders to adopt. The EAC will talk to Mrs. Tyler about this, as well.

Odds and Ends –

Railroad Noise Abatement – Per Mr. Conley, this project is moving forward. The Township has applied for a grant to fund the project. The Supervisors have committed to fund the project, if we do not receive the grant.

Patterson Tree Plaque – The plaque is not yet completed.

Bird Town Training – Mrs. D’Alessio reported that John Rogers, who will be doing the Bird Town training in LMT, wants to present a one hour lecture prior to the Bird Town training. We would need to provide him with a map of the Township, including its waterways, and a room for the lecture to be held. Mrs. D’Alessio will contact Mr. Rogers re scheduling the lecture for some time after the holidays and before the Spring training.

With no further business to discuss, the October 8, 2014 meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council adjourned at 9:05PM. The next meeting of the EAC will be held on November 11, 2014, at 7PM, in the LMT municipal building.

Respectfully Submitted,

James J. Bray, Chairman