

Lower Makefield Township
Environmental Advisory Council
February 13, 2013
Meeting Minutes

Those Present:

Jim Bray, Chairman
Alan Dresser, Vice Chairman
Mark Bortman, Member
Rick Ewing, member
Paul Roden, Member
Gail Stringer, Member
Joe Sundeen, Member

Approval of January 9, 2013 EAC Meeting Minutes – The January 9, 2013 EAC meeting minutes were approved, with changes.

EAC Year End Review Approval – The Review was approved unanimously, as written. Mr. Bray will release it by the end of the week.

Pervious Pavement Ordinance Update – Mr. Bray and Mr. Dresser met with the Planning Commission to present the draft ordinance. The Commission agreed that it offers environmental benefits but they had questions about the administration of the ordinance, primarily as it deals with permitting and inspection. Mr. Dresser reported on research he has done on covenants, which can be used to ensure that the pervious pavement is maintained if the property is sold. The municipality of Titusville, in Florida, has had such an ordinance, based on covenants, for five years, with success. Mr. Dresser and Mr. Bray will follow up on the issues raised by the Planning Commission.

Bible Fellowship Update – The Church presented a new plan to the Township, a purchase of 8.9 acres of Township land. There was general opposition to the plan, by the neighbors in attendance, the Supervisors and the EAC. Neighbors were primarily concerned about the lights, noise, traffic and the view being of a parking lot rather than trees.

Smart Power Presentation – John Edwards and Danielle Oliver of Smart Power, the marketing firm for Clean Energy, presented their new Wind Power Campaign to the EAC. The Township, through the EAC, worked with Smart Power in 2008, acquiring 200+ residential wind energy customers. As of January, that program was discontinued. They would like to partner with the Township on the new campaign. There is a question about the Township's energy provider; Mr. Dobson will get that information. John will follow up on inquiries about the extent to which this program will provide local benefits. He will send the power point on the program to Mr. Bray, who will forward it to the rest of the EAC.

Cool Cities Buy Local Project – Updating the list of local businesses is ongoing.

Environmental Stewardship Award – Mr. Bray reported on the presentation of the 2012 Stewardship Award to Kim Wodzanowski, for her efforts on behalf of recycling, at the recent BOS meeting.

Open Space Update –

LMT River Property Purchase Update – The property was bought with FEMA funds. Mr. Fedorchak asked the EAC to look at the property and come up with some ideas of what could be done with it.

Other Properties of Interest – The Board has expressed an interest in having the EAC make recommendations on additional properties worth considering.

Protecting Existing Properties – Mr. Bray talked to Jeffrey Marshall of Heritage Conservancy, who agreed to make recommendations about which LMT properties he thinks need special protection. Mr. Bray will talk to Mr. Fedorchak about bringing the current list of properties up to date. Mr. Dobson reported that the Board will deed restrict Patterson Farm this year even if they don't get the conservation easement grant.

Environmental Lecture Series 2013 – Scott Weidensaul will bring his "Bird Migration" lecture to Lower Makefield on October 19, 2013. It will be held in the LMT municipal building at 10AM. It is expected that there will also be an open space presentation in LMT in Spring 2013.

Penn Future Solar Ordinance Grant for LMT – Penn Future had contacted Mr. Bray about a grant available from the State of Pennsylvania to develop a Solar Ordinance for LMT. Mr. Bortman will take responsibility for this project. Penn Future needs a letter of commitment, expressing interest in the grant, from the Township before they can move forward. Once the Board has given the EAC the okay on this project, Mr. Bray will write the letter and give it to Mr. Fedorchak for his signature.

EAC Website Update – Mr. Bray received changes from the EAC members and will e-mail them to Adrienne tomorrow.

Recycling Update – Information on what we can and can't recycle in the Township will be printed on the tax bills this year again, in the Spring and in the Fall. The second Electronic Waste Recycling event, with Leck, will be held on October 5; that information will also be on the tax bills.

Historic Tree Ordinance Update – The Historic Tree Ordinance project has been put on hold because of the large number of projects that are already in the works.

Open Discussion –

Trees for Veterans Park – Mr. Dobson asked about the number of trees that LMT has in stock. He is hoping some of the trees that are owed to the Township can be used in Veterans Park.

Infestation of Emerald Ash Borer – Mr. Bray attended a seminar on this subject and described it as a huge environmental and safety problem. It will be on the agenda at the March EAC meeting.

With no further business to discuss, the LMT Environmental Advisory Council was adjourned at 9:45PM. The next meeting of the EAC will be held on March 13, 2013, at 7PM, in the LMT municipal building.

Respectfully Submitted,

James J. Bray, Chairman

