

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

Those Present:

Jim Bray, Chairman
Alan Dresser, Vice Chairman
Mark Bortman, Member
Dobby Dobson, Supervisor Liaison
Gail Stringer, Member
Joe Sundeen, Member

Mr. Bray welcomed Nicole Cromarty, a Lower Makefield Township resident interested in observing an EAC meeting.

Approval of February 13, 2013 EAC Meeting Minutes – The February 13, 2013 EAC meeting minutes were approved as written.

Pervious Pavement Ordinance Update – In their last meeting with Mr. Fedorchak, Mr. Bray and Mr. Dresser discussed the Planning Commission's concerns about the Ordinance. Mr. Fedorchak suggested a maintenance agreement, between the Township and the resident, as one way to handle monitoring. The maintenance agreement will go with the disclosure statement when the property is sold and the Township will inspect the property every two years. Mr. Dresser received a list of names of stores which sell equipment which can be used to keep the pervious pavement clean. Mr. Bray and Mr. Dresser will meet with the Planning Commission to update them. There was a suggestion made that documents that provide information on maintaining pervious pavement be added to the website.

Smart Power – It was agreed that the EAC and Township would not sign up for the Smart Power program at this time since the Township has two years left on their contract with Dominion Power. In addition, the EAC has a full workload. Mr. Bortman had compared the costs among suppliers and found that Smart Power is the cheapest for 100% renewal energy. Mr. Bray will provide Mr. Bortman with the statistics on the Township's energy usage.

Cool Cities Buy Local – It was agreed that we would take a different approach on identifying local businesses for our Buy Local campaign, one which should allow us to gather important information about the businesses with much less work. The first step is for Mrs. Stringer and Mrs. Bray to draft the letter to be sent to local businesses and forward it to the EAC for review.

Environmental Stewardship Award – Ms. Wodzanowski sent a letter to the EAC thanking them for her award and the money, which she donated to her recycling club.

Open Space Update – Mr. Bray reminded the group that the EAC had been asked by Mr. Fedorchak to offer some ideas on what can be done with the property along the River. Mr. Bray said he would be visiting the property on Saturday morning at 9:30am and all are welcome to attend.

Mr. Bray said the EAC will soon start looking at open space properties again. Mr. Bray and Mr. Dresser will talk to Mr. Fedorchak about posting signs on all of the properties that are preserved; it is important to include information on the signs about what is, and is not, allowed on each property.

Environmental Lecture Series – In addition to the bird migration lecture in October 2013, the EAC will take steps to bring an open space presentation to the Township in April or May, depending on the availability of Kris Kern and Jeff Marshall, from Bucks County Open Space and Heritage Conservancy, respectively. Mr. Bray asked all to consider ways that we can make residents more aware of the open space issue.

Solar Ordinance Grant – Mr. Bortman reported that Penn Future has the letter from the Township, expressing their commitment to the development of the solar ordinance. Mr. Bray will ask Penn Future to send Mr. Bortman information so he can move forward on the project. Mr. Dobson will forward a copy of the ordinance he got from Upper Makefield to Mr. Bortman.

Website Update – Mrs. Bray will follow up to make sure that the changes sent to the Township have been made to the website.

Recycling – Mr. Dresser reported that the first Bucks County hazardous waste/electronic recycling is in Levittown in April; no others are on the County website at this time. Mr. Dresser will be sending a letter to some LMT businesses to confirm that they are recycling. Mr. Dresser plans to meet with Donna Liney of Parks and Rec about setting up for recycling at the tournaments.

Historic Tree Ordinance – This project is on hold. Mr. Fedorchak did ask Mr. Bray and Mr. Dresser to have a plaque made for the magnolia tree on Patterson Farm, the largest magnolia tree in the state of Pennsylvania. It was noted that Bright Farms owes the Township 39 trees and Flowers Field at Edgewood owes the Township 88 trees. The Veterans Committee had asked for input on a landscape plan for the Veterans Park; Mr. Bray will follow up with Kevin Treiber.

Land Use Review –

Bullard Property – This property is along the Canal, consisting of three acres; the owner wants to subdivide and put in another house. The EAC has issues with this subdivision and has brought them to the attention of the BOS.

Open Discussion – Bright Farms held an open house, and the operation was deemed very impressive. They will produce 500,000 pounds of vegetables and herbs each year. They were asked to hold open houses for the public.

With no further business to discuss, the March 13, 2013 Environmental Advisory Committee meeting was adjourned. The next meeting of the EAC will be held on April 10, 2013, at 7:00PM, at the LMT municipal building.

Respectfully Submitted,

James J. Bray, Chairman