

**LOWER MAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**JULY 11, 2024 MEETING**

Present: James Bray, Chair; Alan Dresser, Vice Chair; Soumya Dharmavaram; Kevin Gallen; Dominique Mitchell; Paul Roden

Also in attendance was Steve Dilliplane, a resident of Lower Makefield.

Mr. Bray called the meeting to order at 6PM. He noted that the meeting is an in-person meeting, with exceptions made for members who could not attend in person. They participated on Zoom.

The first order of business was review and approval of the June 13 minutes. Mr. Bray called for a vote, Mr. Roden made a motion to approve, Mr. Dresser seconded and the June minutes were approved unanimously.

**2024 Long-Range Master Tree Plan** – Mr. Bray said that the BOS agenda is full for the next two meetings so the tree master plan will be discussed at their August 7 meeting. He noted that he and Mr. Dresser have been working with Mr. Majewski and Mr. Comitta on the plan. They feel the collaboration was successful and resulted in an excellent plan. A vote was taken and the tree plan was approved unanimously assuming minor language changes will be made.

Mr. Bray also addressed the status of our membership in Tree City USA. He indicated that we will be making a presentation to the BOS in the near future requesting that LMT submit an application for membership. We have fulfilled all the requirements to become A Tree City except having an Arbor Day celebration. This is an action that can be easily accomplished.

**Recycling** – The tentative date for our Styrofoam plus fall recycling event of September 28 was revised to October 26<sup>th</sup>. In addition, the EAC will be submitting an article about the ongoing Styrofoam events to the Bucks County Herald and Yardley Voice in time to advertise the October 26<sup>th</sup> event.

Mrs. Dharmavaram provided information on the pill bottle recycling's that her daughter is coordinating at her school. Thousands of bottles have been cleaned and shipped to third world countries. Mr. Bray expressed his appreciation for the students' hard work on this project.

**Bird Town PA** – Mrs. Bray spoke again about the Falconry event that was a great success with both adults and children in April and will be offered to the Township again on October 5 of this year.

Mrs. Bray also mentioned a bird-making project that might be available in early Fall and the possibility of a Tree Festival around Arbor Day next year. She asked for residents to pass along any ideas they have for the events.

**Proposed Single Use Plastics Ban** – Mr. Bray reported that the plan to have a Newtown Township Supervisor and Penn Environment representative attend the next LMT BOS meeting to provide information about single use plastic bag ban will be put on hold for a short time. Mr. Bray said his next step will be to call the Supervisor(s) and find out where they stand on this issue.

**Update on Land Use Plans**- Mr. Dresser noted that the new revised plan for the Wright Farm was not much different than the initial preliminary plan. He will put together some draft comments and send them out to the EAC. He also mentioned that the Planning Commission website has a link to most plan submittals for outstanding proposed developments in LMT.

**EAC Lecture** – Mr. Bray is in conversation with the Newtown Theater Executive Director, Andy Smith, about bringing an environmental documentary or two to the Theater. The Theater is closed now but will be opening in the Fall.

**Model Energy Ordinance**- Mr. Gallen will work on the Ordinance right away and get the information to Mr. Bray.

**Open Space Recommendations and Ballot Referendum** – Mr. Bray thinks the Supervisors will approve the Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> ballot referendum at their July 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. There may still be though some disagreement about the wording. He asked Mr. Dresser to send the 2008 ballot referendum wording out to the EAC members.

**Heritage Tree Investigation** – Mr. Bray will get in contact with the PA Big Tree's representative and report on their conversation at the next EAC meeting.

**EAC Newsletter** – Mr. Roden will include in his next newsletter, a reminder of the October 5 Falconry Event, the next EAC recycling event date, and an update on open space.

**Odds and Ends**- Mr. Dresser mentioned that the trees along Mirror Lake Road, which were supposed to get four feet of deer protection, have only gotten one foot. 4 feet of protection on the tree trunk is needed in order to be sure the trees do not get damaged or killed. He will bring this to Mr. Kratzer's attention.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7PM. The next EAC meeting will be held in person on August 8, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,

James Bray, Chair