

LOWER MAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

January 9, 2025 Meeting

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

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 make it in person.

The first order of business was review and approval of the December 12, 2024 minutes. Mr. Bray made a motion to approve the minutes as written and the December minutes were approved unanimously.

Election of Officers for 2025 - Mr. Bray called for a vote on the election of officers, as is taken every year in the first Environmental Advisory Council meeting. Mr. Roden moved to nominate Mr. Bray as Chair, Mr. Dresser seconded the motion, and Mr. Bray was elected as Chair. Mr. Bray then nominated Mr. Dresser as Vice Chair, Mr. Roden seconded the motion and all were in favor, and Mr. Dresser was elected as Vice Chair.

2024 Long-Range Master Tree Plan- Mr. Bray will be contacting J. Majewski regarding compiling info for the 2024 Fall Planting. Also, the EAC will be working with the Twp. to plan for the 2025 Spring Planting. Mrs. Coffee inquired as to how the plantings are tracked and Mr. Bray explained that Mr. Majewski maps the plantings.

Recycling- The next Styrofoam/corks/batteries/pill bottles event is scheduled for January 11, 2025. The Spring collection date is to be determined but should be held in or around April.

Single Trash Hauler- Mr. Dresser stated that the report is finished and was sent to all supervisors in a Jan. 4th email. There was a discussion of the report with Mrs. Coffee adding some good suggestions. Mr. Bray, Mr. Dresser and Mrs. Coffee will present the project to the Board of Supervisors at a yet to be determined meeting.

Bird Town – Mrs. Bray reported that the Township staff, Katie McVan and Kellie Frain have posted a photo and write-up on the LMT website concerning January's Bird of the Month, the Red-Bellied Woodpecker. It is under LMT's website information tab. Also, Carol Mahoney, an LMT resident and bird lover, has posted January's Bird of the Month write-up on the Facebook page "Lower Makefield Is A Great Place To Live". In February there will be a new Bird of the Month posted.

Update on Land Use Plans – There were no new development plans submitted to the township. Mr. Dresser mentioned there will be a “conditional use” hearing at a future BOS meeting for the proposed doggie daycare center near Paterson Farm.

There was a long discussion about the proposed wastewater treatment plant in Newtown Township next to the Newtown bypass. The proposed site is about a mile west of the new Wegman’s.

Proposed Single Use Plastics Ban- Mr. Bray discussed this project with Supervisors Grenier and Lewis. He was told that their two current priorities are the Single Trash Hauler issue and proposed changes to the LMT stormwater management ordinances.

EAC Lecture Series- There was a discussion of possible lectures, including plastic ban, tree planting, rain gardens, native plants, and others. Mr. Weilbacher will be contacted to discuss a possible plastics lecture or naughty by nature valentine day lecture that he recommended.

Arbor Day Plaque Preparation- In March the Township should officially receive its Tree City Designation. LMT’s first Arbor Day celebration will be held on Saturday, April 26, 2025.

2024 Environmental Stewardship Award Plaque and Award Ceremony- Mr. Bray is working on this project.

EAC and Township Newsletters- Mr. Roden will send out info on upcoming lectures

Odds and Ends – Mr. Dresser will send the supervisors an email concerning the recent open space referendum results and possible open space acquisitions.

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Bray called the EAC meeting to an end at 7:15 PM. The next EAC meeting will be held in person on February 13, 2025, at 6PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

James Bray, Chair