

LOWER MAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP

MARCH 24, 2026

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Present: James Bray, Chair; Alan Dresser, Vice Chair {Virtual}; Soumya Dharmavaram; Dominique Mitchell; Paul Roden; Eleanor Turner

Also in attendance was Jim Driscoll and Carla Kimmel-Smith, who was recently made an Associate Member of the EAC.

Mr. Bray called the meeting to order at 7PM. He entertained a motion to approve the February 12, 2026 EAC minutes. Ms. Dharmavaram made the motion to approve, Ms. Turner seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

EAC Lecture Series for 2026- Forty+ residents and neighbors were treated again to this year's Valentine lecture on Feb. 14th. Mike Weilbacher, a writer and naturalist, brought us "Naughty by Nature", his entertaining and educational lecture. It was so-well received last year that we decided to bring it back. Will we bring it back next year? We very well might so keep an eye on our website.

On March 14th we had a lecture introduced by EAC member Ms. Turner called "AI and the Grid". It was led by two very knowledgeable folks from Penn Future who provided a lot of information on this hot topic. It was fascinating and a huge success with more than 70 people in attendance. Ms. Turner will be involved with the EAC's next lecture, "Fast Fashion", on May 2 in the LMT Administration Building at 10am.

EAC Awards Applications – Ms. Quigley is working on this project and was not able to make the meeting.

LMT Spring 2026 Tree Planting – Mr. Bray is still waiting for information that will allow the project to be completed. EAC recommendations for the spring 2026 planting were reviewed by Township Engineer's arborist and are complete (species, numbers and locations). The township will soon be going out for bids on the project.

Heritage Tree Ordinance – Ms. Coffee was not in attendance to report on this item but Mr. Bray mentioned that Ms. Coffee had done a good job on the Heritage Tree submittals. They will be submitted to the LMT Manager in near future.

LMT Tree Squad- The EAC will soon be giving a presentation to the BOS on its request to form a Tree Squad in LMT. This new group will assist LMT Public Works Dept. in caring for trees, especially the new trees being planted in LMT public areas. BOS approval will be requested.

Strategic Planning – There was no update on the Strategic Planning.

Recycling – LMT/EAC's 24th Recycling Event is scheduled for May 23rd from 10 a.m. - noon in front of the LMT Administration Building.

Bird Town PA Event in May – May brings an enlightening lecture to LMT. On May 9th, one day before Mothers' Day, Juanita Hummel, one of the area's most knowledgeable bird experts, will treat bird lovers to a lecture on bird mothers and their chicks. Learn all about how different species of birds raise their babies. And one lucky human mother will win a Mothers' Day present.

Land Use Reviews – There were no new land development submittals. Mr. Dresser mentioned he has a Jan. 2025 sketch plan that shows a Master Plan for the Shady Brook property. It was drafted by the owners/developers. He will forward copies to everyone.

Proposed Single Use Plastics Ban Update – A presentation on this topic will hopefully be held at the August 5, 2026 BOS meeting.

April 11 Canal Clean-Up Day- An e-mail was sent to EAC members asking for help in cleaning the Canal.

EAC and Township Newsletters- There was nothing new regarding the recent newsletter mailings.

Odds and Ends- None

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was called to an end. The next meeting of the EAC will be held on Tuesday, April 28.

Respectfully Submitted,

James J. Bray, Chair