

**TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2010**

The regular meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council of the Township of Lower Makefield was held in the Lower Makefield Township Municipal Building on Wednesday, April 14, 2010. Chairman Rick Ewing called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Those present:

**Environmental Advisory
Council:**

Jim Bray, Member
Laura Brandt, Member (absent)
Alan Dresser, Member
Rick Ewing, Chairman
Geoff Goll, Member
Joseph Sundeen, Vice-Chairman

Others:

Pete Stainthorpe, Supervisor Liaison
Mary Barnett, Resident

LECK & SONS PRESENTATION

Mrs. Mary Barrett, Chairperson of the Cool Cities Committee said the Committee created different subgroups led by community volunteers to execute the Cool Cities initiative and one of the groups is trash and recycling. She stated Leck is here to talk about waste and how to be more efficient at recycling our waste.

Mrs. Tina Leck presented a video about single-stream recycling which Leck provides. The audience asked questions about items that could be and could not be recycled. Mr. Leck explained how RecycleBank works and the benefits to trash customers.

APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 2010 MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Goll moved, Mr. Sundeen seconded and the March meeting minutes were unanimously approved with changes.

PLANS FOR THE R8 TRAIN LINE PRESENTATION

The Council agreed they would support a resolution by the Board of Supervisors encouraging the resurrection of the R8 line in Newtown.

RECYCLING UPDATE

Mr. Dresser stated that he is working on identifying places and events in the Township that don't recycle and sent letters to remind those organizations such as the soccer tournaments and Sunrise Assisted Living about recycling. Mr. Stainthorpe suggested reaching out to Donna Linney to speak with YMS and to put out more recycling bins at the tournaments and implore YMS to recycle.

TREE PLANTINGS

Mrs. Brandt stated on April 10th volunteers planted 24 native bare-root trees at the Roelofs softball fields. They have borrowed alligator bags to water the trees.

CELL PHONE RECYCLING

Mrs. Brandt stated the cell phone-recycling program is a huge success and each time she checks the bin it is full.

MARCELLUS SHALE DRILLING

Mrs. Barnett said she is asking the Township to compose a letter in opposition to the proposed Marcellus Shale drilling in Pennsylvania. She has looked at the drilling situation in New York and the potential contamination of water resulting in a moratorium on drilling in New York. Pennsylvania does not have the same stringent drilling laws as New York and the situation could be deadly in Pennsylvania. The Delaware River watershed area could be affected by this drilling and pollution of the water could occur.

Mr. Bray stated Pennsylvania is the only state that does not charge an extraction fee for gas drilling. He noted that we can't likely stop the drilling but oversight could be a deterrent to improper and harmful drilling. The Council talked about whether or not a fee or tax should be imposed and that oversight is crucial to safe drilling.

Mr. Ewing asked Mrs. Barrett what if anything the Council is recommending. He asked if drilling is acceptable would a recommendation on how it is done and regulations make the process safer. Mr. Stainthorpe suggested a letter is stronger and more effective coming from individuals than a letter from the Township or the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Goll suggested Representative Santarsiero come talk to the Township and Council about the issue since he has stated his position in the matter.

Mr. Sundeen suggested putting links on the Township website to information about the issue for individuals to form their own opinions in the matter. Mr. Goll said he has a staff member who is writing a summary on the issue and how to protect the watershed and could share that summary with the Council and Township.

COOL CITIES

Mrs. Barrett stated the Committee met in January to involve the community to implement the sustainable community plan. She stated the Committee is devising an action plan for the Township and it will be completed by June. She stated that most things in the plan could be done at no cost to the Township.

SILVER LAKE PRESENTATION

Mrs. Jeanne Bray stated she has been volunteering at Silver Lake Nature Center for several years. Many people in the area don't know a lot about Silver Lake or have even visited. She is trying to get

local Environmental Advisory Councils involved to raise awareness about the Nature Center. Mr. Sundeen asked Mrs. Bray if she would like to put information in the next EAC newsletter about Silver Lake Nature Center and Mrs. Bray replied yes.

LAND USE REVIEWS

Matrix Buffers – Matrix made a presentation at the last Board of Supervisors meeting and presented a new planting schematic. Mr. Bray said that Matrix removed 50 trees and underbrush and will be adding 15-20 new trees in the new area and left approximately 30 additional trees in an area where trees were originally planned to be removed.

Scammel's Corner – Mr. Sundeen said that during the recent windstorm, 5 to 6 trees blew towards the neighbor's trees. Mr. Sundeen said he sent messages to Mr. Fedorchak and Mr. Majewski and a tree person came out to look at the trees.

Zubaida – Mr. Goll said he contacted Mr. Majewski about the need for more testing at the site, dimension issues on the basin and the need to address the Council's unanswered questions. Mr. Majewski met with Zubaida who agreed to do more investigation.

Edgewood Crossing – Mr. Dresser stated the preliminary plan was submitted for the project. He stated the developer would perform an EIA in connection with Flower's Field. Mr. Dresser asked the Council for comments by the end of the month so he can prepare a response letter to the developer.

Middlemiss – Mr. Ewing stated the applicant revised the water runoff plan which he will look at and would like Mr. Goll's assistance with the water calculations.

UPDATE ON NEW MEMBERS

Mr. Stainthorpe said he did not have any update.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Mr. Bray said he attended the PEC meeting last week. He stated he has a speaking engagement in New Jersey about native plants and will be also speaking in Hopewell Township.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 12th at 7:30 pm in the Township Building.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rick Ewing, Chairman