

**TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MAKEFIELD  
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 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, September 8, 2010. Chairman Ewing called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**Those present:**

**Environmental Advisory  
Council:**

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

**Others:**

Pete Stainthorpe, Supervisor Liaison

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBER – Gayle Stringer**

Ms. Stringer introduced herself and briefly stated her educational and professional background and that she has been very interested in environmental issues since the 1970's.

**APPROVAL OF THE MAY AND JULY 2010 MEETING MINUTES**

Mr. Goll moved and Mr. Dresser seconded and it was unanimously carried to approve the May and July meeting minutes with changes. The Council did not meet in August.

**COOL CITIES UPDATE**

Ms. Stringer is the chairperson of the Cool Cities Committee and stated that the Committee was meeting on a regular basis but did not meet over the summer and she has scheduled a meeting for next week. She stated that Ms. Mary Barrett resigned from the Committee because of her frustration with the lack of volunteers and the slow pace of executing the Cool Cities plan. Ms. Stringer said she hopes the Committee will get back to a regular meeting scheduled and obtain some new members to fill vacancies.

**EAC BOOTH AT YARDLEY HARVEST DAY**

Ms. Brandt stated the EAC would have a table next to the Yardley Borough EAC at Harvest Day on Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup> in Yardley Borough. She asked if any members could sit at the table that day. Ms. Brandt asked Ms. Stringer if someone from the Cool Cities Committee could sit at the table for a while to answer questions about the Cool Cities plan.

Mr. Goll suggested talking with Jim Majewski to see if he has any storm water management information for the table, which would help satisfy the requirements of the NPDES permit.

## **RECYCLING EDUCATION**

Mrs. Brandt said over the summer her daughter got involved with recycling education and was asked to give a PowerPoint presentation about the negative impact of water bottles on the environment to the Girl Scouts at their camp this summer. Mrs. Brandt and her daughter were asked to coordinate an information table on Recycling Education on July 17th for Discover Day at Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve. The exhibit highlighted reasons you shouldn't use plastic water bottles, alternatives to plastic packaging and containers, and a kid-friendly game on composting and recycling. There were approximately 300 attendees that day.

Mr. Dresser stated that Mr. Fedorchak sent letters to the Sunrise Assisted Living facilities on Township Line Road and Oxford Valley Road near McCaffrey's reminding them to recycle at their facilities. Sunrise on Oxford Valley Road has complied and at first he did not hear from Sunrise on Township Line Road but have now responded and will comply. Mr. Dresser said that Ms. Linney and her staff will put out more recycling containers for upcoming sporting events such as the Columbus Day soccer tournament.

## **BIRDTOWN USA PRESENTATION**

Mrs. Brandt said the Birdtown USA presentation is scheduled for October 13<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Steve Saffier from the Audubon at Home Program will give a 45-minute presentation. Mr. Ewing stated that a 45-minute presentation is too long and Mr. Saffier should be asked to reduce his presentation to 20-minutes with 10-minutes for questions and answers. Mr. Ewing said if the Council agrees to make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to sign up for the Birdtown program then Mr. Saffier could give a more detailed lecture at a Board of Supervisors meeting.

## **LAND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION PROCESS**

Mr. Dresser said he sent a completeness certificate to Dave Truelove, the Township Solicitor and he is awaiting a response from him.

## **LAND DEVELOPMENT REVIEWS**

**Dogwood** – Mr. Goll said he just received the plans. Mr. Dresser said he already reviewed the plans and sent out comments to the applicant. The project is located near the golf course. He said there was a lot of missing information. Mr. Dresser said the applicant liked the idea of the underground basin that Mr. Goll suggested. He said he asked Mr. Majewski to weigh in on some of the issues regarding the water calculations.

**Zubaida** – Mr. Goll said he sent out his last set of comments to the applicant. He said if they could get off-site drainage they may qualify to use pervious surface. He asked Mr. Majewski to look at the drainage issues and follow-up with the applicant.

**Scammel's** – Mr. Sundeen stated he has not have anything to report.

**Harris** – Mr. Stainthorpe said the developer came to the Board of Supervisors to present the plan for the dump but it needs to be engineered and they are moving very slow.

**Matrix** – Mr. Stainthorpe said the applicant submitted a sketch plan showing minor changes such as slightly moving roads. Mr. Ewing said they added a few more lots to the plan as well.

## **OPEN DISCUSSION**

Mr. Dresser said at the recent County Commissioners' meeting at the Grange Fair, the County approved the Neshaminy Creek Watershed Ordinance. Mr. Goll said the local Delaware Watershed Ordinance should be revised to reflect the changes to the Neshaminy Watershed to be consistent. Mr. Dresser will ask to setup a meeting with Mr. Majewski and Mr. Goll to make revisions to the Delaware Watershed Ordinance.

Mr. Goll said he recently read that FEMA is concerned about climate change, hired a consultant and determined that peak flows will go up 45% in the New York Metropolitan area reaching as far as Bucks County, PA.

Mr. Goll said he was recently out on the Delaware River with his family and noticed how clean the water is as a result of proper management. The river is great asset right in our backyard.

Mr. Sundeen said he recently saw a piece about bio-char and noticed the idea is really catching on.

Ms. Stringer said earlier Mr. Goll talked about the Delaware River and asked if the Supervisors would pass a resolution to support a moratorium on Marcellus Shale drilling. Ms. Stringer said she recently attended a presentation on shale drilling and fracking and how hazardous is it. If drilling is approved in northeastern Pennsylvania it could pollute the Delaware Watershed. Mr. Stainthorpe said he would like more information on the issue before he makes a decision. Mr. Goll said he would like to understand what affect drilling and fracking could have on the water supply. Ms. Stringer said the problem is there is no research on the affect it has on the water supply. Mr. Goll suggested the Council ask Representative Santarsiero or Senator McIlhinney to speak to the Township about the subject since both of them have heard both sides of the issue.

Mr. Goll talked about his client's project that received an EPA grant to drill for gas near Tinicum and there are controls in place that if something happens there is a level of accountability.

Mr. Ewing asked Mr. Stainthorpe if the Supervisors passed a resolution to support a study of the feasibility of the R-8 train line in Newtown and Mr. Stainthorpe replied yes.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 13<sup>h</sup> at 7:30 pm in the Township Building.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rick Ewing, Chairman