

Lower Makefield Township
Environmental Advisory Council
March 14, 2012
Meeting Minutes

Those Present:

Environmental Advisory Council:

Jim Bray, Chairman
Alan Dresser, Vice Chairman
Mark Bortman, Member
Gail Stringer, Member
Joe Sundeen, Member
Jeff Benedetto, Supervisor Liaison

Others:

Paul Roden

The March 14, 2012 meeting of the LMT Environmental Advisory Council was called to order at 7:00PM. Geoff Goll, who resigned from the EAC for personal reasons, was in attendance to say goodbye. Mr. Bray spoke of Mr. Goll's long tenure with the EAC and the Township, and thanked him for the expertise and commitment he had brought to the role.

Approval of February 8, 2012 Environmental Advisory Council Meeting Minutes – The February 8, 2012 EAC meeting minutes were unanimously approved, with changes.

Ragan Property – Mr. Bray reported on the EAC/LMT presentation on the Ragan property made to the Bucks County Open Space Board.

Cool Cities – Mrs. Stringer gave an update on Cool Cities. She is researching similar efforts in other municipalities. Ms. Bray is calling everyone on the list to identify anyone who might still be interested in participating.

Lower Southampton EAC – Mr. Bray provided the Lower Southampton EAC with an overview of LMT EAC initiatives.

Presentation on Permaculture – Mrs. Stringer gave an overview of the February 18 presentation given by Melissa Miles, who teaches permaculture at Bucks County Community College. Permaculture is the process of designing landscapes, buildings and gardens in an ecological and sustainable way.

Environmental Lecture Series – Mr. Sundeen spoke to David Hughes, whose company turns lawns into natural meadows, about doing a presentation in LMT in January or February, as part of the EAC Environmental Lecture Series.

Energy Audit – Mr. Bray reported that the Township has completed some of the action items on the energy audit report. He asked Mr. Bortman to take a look at the report and recommend next steps at the April EAC meeting.

Land Ethics Symposium – Mrs. Stringer reported on the 2012 Bowman’s Hill-sponsored Land Ethics Symposium which she and Mr. Bray attended.

Environmental Stewardship Award – Mr. Bray reported that the LMT BOS has agreed to pay for the \$500 Award. The plaque will be presented to the Makefield School representatives at the April 18th Board of Supervisors meeting.

Birdtown USA – Mrs. Brandt will provide an update on this project after she goes through the training.

Bible Fellowship Church – The EAC agreed that, once they see a concrete proposal from the church, they will determine their position on the sale of this property.

Drainage Basin Project – Mr. Fedorchak will be taking a look at three of the controversial basins.

Bright Farms Proposal – Mr. Bray, Mr. Dresser and Mr. Benedetto walked the Patterson Farm to check out possible sites for the Bright Farms greenhouse. They found a site that they think is very appropriate. Mr. Dresser will prepare a schematic.

Land Review –

Scammel Corners – This project received an A+ from the EAC. The EAC suggested that they will be willing to monitor the tree removal. Mr. Dresser will forward his comments to the EAC and give them two days to get back to him with theirs.

With no further business to discuss, the March 14, 2012 meeting of the LMT Environmental Advisory Council was adjourned at 9:15PM. The next meeting will be held on April 11, 2012, at 7:00PM, at the LMT municipal building.

Respectfully Submitted,

James J. Bray, Chairman