

Lower Makefield Township  
Environmental Advisory Council  
February 12, 2014  
Meeting Minutes

Those Present: James Bray, Chairman  
Alan Dresser, Vice Chairman  
Jeff Benedetto, BOS Liaison  
Mark Bortman  
Rick Ewing  
Paul Roden

Also in attendance was Cynthia D'Alessio, LMT Resident

Mr. Bray called the February 12, 2014 meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council to order at 7:15PM. The first order of business was the approval of the January 8, 2014 EAC minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously, as amended.

**G.O.A.L. Earth Day Event** – Dale Frazier, who was unable to attend, will attend the March meeting to update the group on this event.

**Open Space Update** – Mr. Bray, Mr. Dresser and Mrs. D'Alessio, after reviewing potential open space properties, compiled a report which was scheduled to be presented to the LMT Supervisors in Executive Session, prior to the first February BOS meeting. When the meeting was cancelled due to weather conditions, the presentation was rescheduled for the second meeting in March. Mr. Bray will forward the report to all members of the EAC.

**Cool Cities Buy Local Buy Green Update** – In Mrs. Stringer's absence, Mr. Bray informed the group that the letter will be mailed to local businesses once Mr. Fedorchak has had a chance to review it.

**P.E.C. Conference, Saturday, May 3**. Mrs. D'Alessio and Mr. Ewing will attend one day of the Conference. Mrs. D'Alessio will coordinate the effort to recruit a third attendee.

**Land Ethics Symposium** - Mrs. D'Alessio, and possibly others, will attend the Land Ethics Symposium on February 20. Mrs. D'Alessio will coordinate.

**Tree Tenders** – Mr. Bray reported that he talked to Mr. Fedorchak and Mrs. Liney about rehabbing the trees at the Oxford Valley softball complex. Ten trees are dead, and will be replaced, with a few others being added. Mr. Bray, Mrs. Liney, and others will visit the complex when the weather breaks, some time in April or May.

A long range project is the replacement of the trees in the LMT administration complex with trees that will work better in that space.

**Pervious Pavement Ordinance Update** – Mr. Dresser gave an update on the Ordinance, which was approved by the Planning Commission at their February meeting. It will be presented to the Board of Supervisors at their meeting on March 19. Mr. Dresser will do a power point presentation and is considering asking Kenneth Krenk, a representative from Pa. Concrete and Aggregate, to attend. Mr. Roden will forward the information he has on testing pervious pavement to Mr. Dresser.

#### **Land Use Reviews** –

**Harris Farm** – There are three different sketch plans. The EAC supports the plan with thirty houses.

**Manor Care** – Mr. Dresser forwarded the EAC's comments on October 10 and has just recently received a response to those comments. There was a negative response to the EAC's suggestion that the builder use pervious pavement in the parking lot. Mr. Dresser will draft a response to their comments, and forward it to the EAC.

**Moon Nursery** – The current plan is to build 15 houses on the property.

**Recycling Update** – Mr. Dresser will schedule LMT's electronics recycling once he gets word on the date of the County's recycling event.

#### **EAC Lecture Series** –

**Trees 101** – Mr. Bray spoke about the April 5 three hour class on caring for trees, to be given by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society in LMT. Per Mr. Fedorchak, four LMT Park and Rec staff members will be attending. Mr. Roden, who sent out a mass e-mail, said that he is already getting responses. Mr. Benedetto reported that the February 19 BOS meeting will include a discussion about doing a better job of tree trimming in LMT.

**Energy Efficiency/Alternative Energy** - Mr. Bortman is planning a lecture on energy/efficiency and alternative energy for sometime early in the Spring of 2014.

**Year End Review** – Mr. Bray reported that he has been getting very positive feedback regarding the 2013 Year End Review. He thanked the EAC members for all of their hard work during the year. Mr. Roden suggested sending the review to surrounding EACs. Mrs. D'Alessio suggested it might be a good idea to get EACs in the area together; Mr. Bray will follow up on that suggestion.

**Heritage Tree Ordinance** – Mrs. D'Alessio is researching the background of heritage tree ordinances and is working on defining a heritage tree. There was discussion about whether the ordinance would stand

by itself or be folded into parts of SALDO. Mrs. D'Alessio is working on a nomination form and will have the definition nailed down by the March meeting.

**Modify Tree Ordinance – Solebury Case** – Mr. Bray reported that the Solebury Tree Ordinance was declared unconstitutional. Since LMT's ordinance has the same wording, the EAC will be modifying it so it is in line with the court ruling. As part of that process, they would like to establish a tree bank that will be funded by developers' dollars.

**Tax Bill Notices** – The next tax bill will include three notices provided by the EAC, one notifying residents to call the Township before doing any digging, the second notifying residents of the Tree 101 seminar, and the last a message to recruit new members for the LMT Tree Tender group.

**Tree Plaque – Patterson Magnolia** – Mrs. D'Alessio distributed copies of text she drafted for the plaque for the Patterson Magnolia. The text was very well received.

**Drainage Basin Project** – Mr. Bray raised the idea of having "no mow" signs placed at each of the drainage basins chosen for naturalization in LMT.

**Open Discussion** – There was discussion of the Countess Drive retaining wall issue; Mr. Bray and Mr. Dresser attended the Zoning Hearing Board meeting on the topic. The issue was continued until the March 4 BOS meeting.

With no further business to discuss, the February 12, 2014 meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council was adjourned at 9:10PM. The next meeting of the EAC will be held on March 13, 2014, at 7:00PM, at the LMT municipal building.

Respectfully Submitted,

James J. Bray, Chairman