

Lower Makefield Township
Environmental Advisory Council
March 9, 2016
Meeting Minutes

Present: Alan Dresser, Chairman
Mark Bortman, Vice Chairman
Jim Bray, Alternate Member
Paul Roden, Member
Kristin Tyler, Supervisor Liaison

Also in Attendance: Lisa Kamp, LMT Resident; Peter Solor, LMT Resident; Sheryl Straub, LMT Resident

Mr. Dresser called the March 9, 2016 meeting of the EAC to order at 7PM. Introductions were made. Ms. Kamp is interested in learning more about the EAC. Mr. Solor is interested in joining the EAC and has submitted his letter of interest; Ms. Tyler said she believes the Board will be addressing committee vacancies in the near future. Ms. Straub was there to discuss her interest in organic cleaning and gardening products.

Approval of January and February 2016 EAC Meeting Minutes – The January and February minutes were approved unanimously, as written.

Possible Workshop on Organic Cleaning and Gardening Products – Ms. Straub spoke about the problems with commercial cleaning and gardening products and is an advocate of homemade products. She holds workshops and lectures on this subject and offered to hold one for LMT. The EAC agreed that this would be an appropriate presentation for the EAC lecture series. Mr. Dresser will see about getting the room in the municipal building for April 16 or 23, for two hours in the morning, and will coordinate the advertising on the LMT website and cable channel. Mr. Roden will send out the notice to the EAC e-mail list and coordinate getting the word out through flyers and articles in the local papers. It was suggested that one helpful handout would be a list of each of the hazardous materials that are used in commercial products and an appropriate product to replace them. She will forward her power point presentation to Mr. Dresser and he will send it out to the EAC. Ms. Straub was invited to attend the April EAC meeting, to finalize details of the lecture.

Open Space Update

Guzikowski Farm – The Township is interested in pursuing the placement of a conservation easement on the 45 acre farm. One of the two required appraisals of the property has been scheduled. Mr. Bray suggested that the property is particularly desirable because it would be linked to Five Mile Woods by a

wooded corridor. Farmland Preservation money may be available. Mr. Solor asked if keeping the farm organic, as it is currently, should be added into the deed restriction.

Jennings Tract – The Township is purchasing three acres of the Jennings property, which will allow access to the Canal. The property will be purchased with some of the remaining County money.

Patterson Farm Easement – There is movement on this project. Ms. Tyler noted that the Township has received positive feedback from the community on the signage that has been added to the property.

Scudders Falls Bridge – Mr. Dresser spoke about the Bridge Commission's interest in buying a small parcel of land from the Township. This 10.2 acre parcel is next to the Scudder Falls Bridge and includes the park 'n ride parking lot. He asked the EAC members to consider how they feel about this purchase. It was noted that, before the parcel can be sold, the residents living around the property would have to agree.

E-Waste Recycling Event - Mr. Bortman reported that Bucks County is not holding an e-waste recycling event this year, because of the expense. He spoke with the people at Weaver's Way Environmental Committee to get more information on the event they held. They charged for recycling televisions and batteries, and counting donations, they made about \$1,000. It was agreed that there is a need for an event in our area. Mr. Bortman will get costs and dates from two companies and report back at the next meeting. It was felt that we should consider inviting other EACs and try to hold the event in the Fall. Mr. Dresser considers this a high priority project.

Emerald Ash Borer Beetle LMT Website Notice – Mr. Black was not in attendance to report on this project.

Recommending Sites for Owed Replacement Trees/April 6th Presentation – Mr. Dresser reported on a meeting held at the Memorial Garden to begin the discussion on planting some of the owed trees on that site. The EAC will present their recommendations to the BOS on all of the owed trees at the April 6th BOS meeting. Ms. Tyler requested a copy of the power point from Mr. Dresser since she will be unable to attend the meeting. Mr. Bortman raised the question of how the trees would be maintained; this will also be discussed at the April 6 meeting.

Elcon Hazardous Waste Facility in Falls Township/February 23 Public Meeting and March 2 BOS Meeting – Mr. Dresser attended the February 28 hearing. There were hundreds of people in attendance and most seemed to be against the project. The same was true of the BOS meeting, which was very well-attended with people generally opposed. Mr. Dresser said the EAC will wait to see what the next steps are.

Lower Makefield Energy Efficiency Projects – After discussing this project at the February meeting, Mr. Bortman followed up with Johnson Controls for more detailed information. He gave an overview of the process, after which Mr. Bray indicated that it sounded like the energy audit that was done some years

before. When he asked how this new audit would be different, Mr. Bortman replied that the major difference is that the Township will not have to put any money out until the changes made begin to show savings. Ms. Tyler asked to see the report from the previous audit.

Ms. Tyler thinks the project is worth a further look and suggested that it be presented to Mr. Fedorchak. Mr. Dresser and Mr. Bortman will discuss it with Mr. Fedorchak at their upcoming meeting.

Land Use Reviews –

Pennsbury Middle School Project – The reaction by the EAC to this first submittal for the Pennsbury project was that most of the issues were traffic, rather than environmental.

Dobry Road 80 Unit Development – Mr. Dresser shared a copy of the plans he had received from Erin Development for a Dobry Road development. He noted that Erin had previously gone to the Township with plans for a development. The EAC, at that time, had major environmental concerns with the plan, and found the developer to be unresponsive to those concerns. The project was abandoned. This new project is similar, except they are using a new builder and the proposal is for even more homes. They want to build 20 buildings with four units in each, on 16 acres. Mr. Dresser noted that there are 10 acres of impervious pavement. He also noted that the plans included no stormwater management or environmental assessment. Mr. Dresser will compile his comments and send to Mr. Solor, who will add his after reviewing the plans.

Lighting at Flowers Field at Edgewood Village – Mr. Solor will check LMT's LID ordinance to see if Flowers Field is in compliance.

Meeting with Terry Fedorchak – In addition to naturalized basins and replacement tree planting, Mr. Dresser and Mr. Bortman will talk to Mr. Fedorchak about the energy audit.

Odds and Ends – Penn State Community Forestry Short Course will be offered on March 29, 30, and 31 online.

With no further business to discuss, the March 9, 2016 meeting of the Environmental Advisory Council of Lower Makefield Township was adjourned at 8:45PM. The next meeting of the EAC will be held on April 13, 2016 in the LMT municipal building at 7:00PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alan Dresser, Chairman