

Lower Makefield Township
Environmental Advisory Council

November 8, 2017

Meeting Minutes

Present: Alan Dresser, Dan Grenier, Lisa Kamp, Paul Roden, Peter Solor and Soumya Dharmavaram

Also in attendance was Tom Alvarez and Joe Menard, Lower Makefield Township residents

Mr. Solor called the November 2017 meeting of the EAC to order at 7:00PM.

Approval of October 11, 2017 Meeting Minutes – The minutes were approved, with changes.

Open Space –

- The EAC is interested in pursuing acquisition of two parcels that are feasible with the existing Open Space budget. One parcel of 5.73 acres has exceptional environmental worth because of its two distinct geographical areas, Piedmont and Coastal Plain, as well as its contiguity with 5 Miles Woods. The other is 0.64 acre University of Dayton property. Owners of both parcels have been approached. There has been no response. Alan Dresser suggested that he could contact the owner of the first parcel, in person, to see if there was any interest.
- The need for an updated Open space prioritization plan was discussed so the future acquisitions can be pursued strategically. Since the township has limited GIS equipment and skills, the members discussed possibilities of engaging consulting firms, universities (Penn State) and the DVRPC (Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission). Dan Grenier suggested that he could investigate the possibility with the DVRPC.

Basin Naturalization and Mowing Plan –

- Following on concerns that naturalized basins in the township were being mowed, Peter Solor finalized a meeting of the EAC with Mr. Hucklebridge, PWD - LMT, for November 29th, 7 pm.
- Members discussed concerns to be discussed with Mr. Hucklebridge that included: a comprehensive and phased retrofitting strategy (stripping/ reseeding - removing concrete sales - complete retrofits); herbicide usage, road salting process and township composting process including relocation from the Snipes tract. Township resident, Joe Menard, shared his concerns on the Snipes tract developments and wood mulch being mixed up with all kinds of objectionable materials.
- Peter Solor compiled a detailed agenda for the November 29th meeting

Yardley Growing Greener Program – Yardley borough has requested support from LMT for their Growing Greener program. Peter Solor will draft a letter to be sent by the township manager.

EAC Lecture Series – The lecture by Mike McGrath on October 28 was very well received. It was estimated that there were over 70 attendees. Future lectures need to be planned during the next meeting. It was suggested that we could call someone from PECO to talk about Home Energy Audits and someone from PWD to talk about residential stormwater retrofits.

LMT's MS4 – There were no developments. Alan Dresser mentioned that he would like to propose possible ordinance changes. Dan Grenier suggested review of township processes. Peter Solor highlighted that transparency in governance was a strong component of the Sustainable PA certification that the EAC would like to pursue in due course. Joe Menard mentioned that Bristol Borough has already streamlined township processes and that maybe LMT could learn from them.

Winter EAC Newsletter – It was suggested that the Winter Newsletter could cover Energy Efficiency. Soumya Dharmavaram would provide a draft write for EE. Paul Roden would write up about the response to the Mike McGrath lecture held in October.

Land Use Reviews – Nothing new for reviews. Mr. Dresser mentioned that the development on Dogwood Drive is expected to come in. There was some discussion on the state of the Snipes tract hearing and the Memorial Park that is not being built according to approved plans.

Morrisville Sewage Authority Field Trip – Mr. Dresser took a head count for the tour on November 18.

Community Environmental Award – Mr. Bortman suggested the award should be given to the National Honor Society students who helped with the Electronic Waste Collection. The award will probably be announced in December and the award ceremony held at a BOS meeting in January or February. The money will come from this year's budget.

EAC Budget – Mr. Solor reported that there is \$2,000 left in the budget. Suggestions on what the money should be used for included signs for the basins. Mr. Bray said that the signs would be free if the Township makes them. He will send the info on having the signs made by an outside vendor to Mr. Dresser. Mr. Grenier suggested the signs include an educational component. Other suggestions for the money were recycling bins for the Community Center and additional solar panels for the Township building. Mr. Bortman will investigate whether he can add on to the solar panels that are already there. The discussion centered on coordinating signs with the Public Works Department and that this would be discussed at the November 29th meeting with Mr. Hucklebridge.

PA Sustainable communities - It was felt that the timing was good to begin work on the PA Sustainable Communities Certification. Peter Solor and Soumya Dharmavaram are to make a presentation to the EAC.

Odds and Ends – xx

With no further business to discuss, the November 2017 meeting of the EAC was adjourned at 9pm. The next meeting of the EAC will be held on December 13, 2017, at 7pm, in the LMT Municipal Building.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter Solor, Co-Chairman