

Lower Makefield Township
Environmental Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

September 12, 2018

Present: Peter Solor, Co-Chair; Soumya Dharmavaram; Barbara Baus; Lisa Kamp; Dan Grenier, LMT Board of Supervisors liaison

Also in attendance was Lee Pedowicz, LMT resident

Mr. Solor called the September EAC meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The first order of business was the approval of the August EAC minutes. The minutes were approved unanimously.

EAC Lecture Series

Mr. Pedowicz agreed to obtain an email confirmation from the PECO representative who had committed to speak at the November 10 energy lecture. Mr. Pedowicz will also contact Home Depot to inquire about a speaker for the topic of practical steps for home energy efficiency. Mr. Grenier will contact the township engineer, Remington Vernick, to inquire about their potential participation in the lecture. Once the list of confirmed speakers is complete, Mrs. Dharmavaram and Mr. Pedowicz will create the publicity flyer for the event.

Mr. Grenier suggested that the next EAC lecture, potentially to be held in late February or early March, should be on the topic of stormwater management and streambank restoration. The lecture would provide information on ways township residents can improve stormwater management (i.e. through rain gardens, etc.) and maintain and/or improve the health of streams and other waterways. It was also suggested that the next EAC newsletter could also focus on streambanks.

MS4 Program/Basin Naturalization Program/Streambank Maintenance

Mr. Grenier discussed the potential benefits, which included better retention basin mapping and streambank restoration, which will occur as a result of the MS4 program. The implementation of the MS4 will include the evaluation of all retention basins (mapping, quality, functioning, etc.). This information can then be used to determine the necessary actions to be taken for each of the basins to optimize pollution reduction. Further action on the Basin Naturalization program can therefore occur once this information is obtained. Mr. Solor suggested that EAC members involved in the Basin Naturalization program and in streambank maintenance could hold additional meetings as necessary, in addition to the monthly EAC meetings, to facilitate progress on these issues. Mr. Grenier requested that the EAC provide comments on the MS4 program, including information on the EAC lecture on stormwater/streambanks, to be submitted to the Board of Supervisors. Final comments from the township on the MS4 Program are due by October 12.

Prioritization of Projects

Mrs. Dharmavaram compiled a strategic action plan to prioritize EAC efforts and to designate items as involving the efforts of the township and/or the LMT community. Mrs. Dharmavaram will email this list to EAC members to review and provide feedback on potential additions, modifications, etc. The list can then be used to coordinate with the Parks and Recreation and Planning Departments before discussing

with the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Solor and Mrs. Dharmavaram also reviewed the Sustainable PA certification documents and created a spreadsheet showing the performance of Lower Makefield Township according to the certification criteria. Mr. Grenier suggested that the EAC should write an explanation of why LMT should consider certification, showing the benefits to the township such as potential grant opportunities, and the necessary steps the township would need to take for LMT to achieve certification.

Elcon

Mr. Grenier requested that the EAC provide a schedule for reviewing the Elcon application and that the EAC also draft a plan for reviewing the portions of the Elcon application that have been deemed administratively complete.

Land Use Reviews

- No new projects have been submitted.
- Dobry Road development – A new site plan was examined which contained a relocation of dumpsters and generators from the previous plan, due to issues with the location relative to structures on neighboring properties. The plan also showed changes in sidewalks and internal roadways. Comments on the revised plans are due by September 28, prior to the re-submission to the planning commission for final review.

EAC Budget

Mr. Solor requested suggestions for projects. It was suggested that conclusions from the MS4 plan may indicate projects which could require the use of funding from the EAC budget.

Open Discussion

Based on inquiries from individuals planning Eagle Scout projects, Ms. Baus will research the criteria for Eagle Scout projects. The EAC can then evaluate the potential for EAC involvement in such projects.

Due to increased discussions on plastic bag use on social media, Mr. Grenier requested that Ms. Kamp compile a document with information on issues related to the various types of bags (plastic, paper, cloth, etc.), showing the environmental impact of production, disposal, etc. of each bag type.

With no further business to discuss, the September 12, 2018 meeting of the LMT Environmental Advisory Council was adjourned at 9:30 pm. The next EAC meeting will be held on October 10, 2018 at 7 pm, in the LMT Municipal Building.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter Solor, Co-chairman