

Environmental Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

June 12th, 2024

Members in Attendance:

Mark Schafer, Chair

Lisa Brown

Maureen Nunn

Brenda Doll

Rea Monaghan, Vice Chair

Marianne Grey

Associate Members: Rich Valiga

Board Of Supervisors Liaison: Tessie McNeely, Danielle Duckett (Zoom)

Staff in Attendance: Sandi Feight

1. **Call to Order, attendance, introductions of new members, participants or visitors**
2. **Approval of prior minutes (attached)** – Approved.
3. **Request to move items from Consent Agenda to Regular Agenda, and any other items to be considered as part of the Regular Agenda** – EcoShield discussion, Garden project at the High School Natatorium.
4. **Approval of Regular Agenda** – approved.
5. **Consent agenda:** May 8th 2024 Meeting minutes
6. **Old Business**
 - a. EAC Program Planning Handbook Update – Maureen, Lisa & Rea have been working on the final document and getting it submitted to Sandi. The deadline to have it submitted will be by the end of the summer.
7. **New Business**
 - a. By Laws – Suggested Review – Rea has been reviewing the bylaws. Sandi will upload them to SharePoint so everyone can read them.
 - b. Election of a Vice Chair – Mark ran the election. Rea was nominated and elected as the Vice Chair. The Vice Chair will run the meetings if the Chair is not available.
8. **Long Range Plan Discussion** - The members had a thorough discussion regarding single use plastics, the number of surrounding municipalities who have implemented a ban and the degree of the ban which includes straws, plastic utensils. They discussed the impact it would have on restaurants and what other options are available. It was mentioned that there is also a supply issue with alternative options. The members all agreed that they needed to educate themselves in the matter and were tasked with reaching out to find a qualified speaker to attend their August meeting to discuss.
9. **Leaf Blower Discussion** – If the advisory council would like to address the noise from leaf blowers to the BOS they can put together a report with pros and cons and come up with a recommendation to the board. The BOS is currently reviewing the Township’s noise ordinance. Mark has offered his expertise to the township’s solicitor regarding the noise decibels of certain things.

10. Standing Items – Committee and Liaison Updates

- a. Parks & Recreation Department & Staff Liaison – Sandi went over the techno trash collection and the money spent on it. Township staff is working on finalizing things with the township's e-newsletter which will be out twice a month moving forward. Nominations for the Going Green Award just opened and will close on 8/30
- b. Planning Commission Liaison – Maureen reported that the meeting was cancelled this month.
- c. LGT Comprehensive Plan Liaison – Rich reported that the meeting was on 6/10. 2/3 of the way through the process. October/November there will be a second open house to go over draft plans for the public to look at and comment on. Went over future land development map and focus area of Bethlehem Pike. Talked about expanding housing options to make it more affordable for everyone.

11. Points of Interest/General comments

- a. Other meetings of Interest
- b. Proposal to host We Conserve PA 2024 – This takes place in the Fall, which is our bus season. It would have to be at the University or the High School so it could house the number of people involved and for lunch. Hosting this will get the EAC publicity out there. EAC will look at and research what it would take to host this and try for 2025.
- c. EcoShield – Rea would like the township to put this company on the list of no soliciting in the Township. She stated that they are very persistent. Mark let her know that this is not an EAC issue and should go to the police and the BOS. Tessie will look into & follow up on this for Rea.
- d. Garden Project at Wiss HS – there are 2 flower beds on the side of the Natatorium that have not been taken care of. Brenda has helped clean them up. If anyone is interested in helping plant, there will be a day in September when Ambler, LG and Whitpain EAC's get together at the high school and plant in the beds takes place. Mark stated if there are funds needed to help and partner, we can look into it. EAC voted and unanimously agreed.

Meeting concluded: 8:40 PM

Next Meeting: July 10th