

June 30, 2018

To: LMT Board of Supervisors

From: LMT EAC

Subject: 2017 Year End Review

The EAC in LMT plays an important role in enhancing the quality of life for all citizens of our township. Accordingly, it is deemed important for us to prepare a Year End Review for the citizens and leaders of our community so that they may more properly assess the value we add to the quality of life in LMT. This review will also briefly discuss the projects we intend to pursue in 2018.

Sound environmental practices equate to a sound economic policy. We feel strongly that our efforts have not only resulted in LMT becoming a 'better place to live' and 'a standout environmental community', but by doing so, we have also improved home values and the quality of life in the township.

This Year End Review will be widely distributed so that the BOS and LMT's citizens become aware of the positive work being done in our Township by a dedicated group of volunteers.

The report is as follows:

1. Drainage Basin Naturalization Program – In LMT there are approximately 150 open space and drainage basin areas in the municipality. In 2008 the EAC initiated a reduced mowing program to provide better stormwater mitigation, better habitat, and which reduced significantly the cost to maintain those areas. From 2008 to 2015 many basins were incorporated into this program. In recent years, many of the basins included in the Township's basin naturalization program have unfortunately been frequently mowed. As a result, the EAC began meeting with the Public Works Department to see about reinstatement of the previous program. The EAC provided 52 signs to Public Works that explain the benefits of basin naturalization to the Public Works Department to post at the drainage basin areas that are not to be mowed. During the summer the EAC distributed flyers describing the benefits of naturalized basins to the neighbors of eight basins that are to be renaturalized.
2. Open Space Acquisition – The purchase of the 9.5 acre wooded Hildebrand Property and the placement of an agricultural conservation easement on 39.4 acres of the Guzikowski Farm were finalized. The EAC outreached to the Falls Township EAC to see encourage them to consider additional open space acquisition in Falls Township to provide a corridor between Five Mile Woods and the Guzikowski Farm. An attempt was made to contact the owner of the property behind the Kohl's Store to find out if they were interested in selling the property to the Township. The land could be added to 5-Mile Woods. There was no response to phone calls or mailed letters. The University of Dayton was contacted about selling a 0.64 acre tract of undeveloped land on Prince William Court, but no action was taken by the Township.
3. Electronics Recycling Collection Event – The EAC organized a multi municipality electronic waste collection event at Charles Boehm Middle School for the second year on May 6th, 2017. This popular event had more than 900 car drop-offs of televisions, computers, and similar items that cannot be recycled through curbside pickup and which are hazardous in a landfill. In addition, much of this material can be recycled through the recycler that this is coordinated with.
4. Styrofoam Recycling Day – On January 14th, 2017 a Styrofoam collection event was held by the EAC outside the LMT Administration building.
5. Conference Attendance – Finding new concepts and bringing them back to LMT is a primary EAC goal. Accordingly, EAC members are encouraged to attend relevant seminars and lectures and

share this knowledge with other EAC members and the community as well. The following list details some of these presentations attended by EAC personnel in 2017:

- a. Pennsylvania Land Conservation Conference – May 6, Lancaster, PA
- b. Sustainability Forum – May 6, Philadelphia, PA
6. Environmental Lecture Series and Outreach – Outreach is an important EAC goal. In addition to periodic newsletters issued by the EAC presentations were provided:
 - a. ‘How to Let Go of the World and Accept Things that Even Climate Can’t Change’ Movie, January 14th
 - b. Backyard Compost by Mike McGrath on October 28th. Approximately 75 people attended the event.
7. Environmental Stewardship Award – The Pennsbury High School Honor Society was nominated for the award for their assistance with the electronic recycling events.
8. Review of the Sewer Plant Improvements – The existing sewage treatment plant in Morrisville that treats 70 % of the sewage generated by LMT residents will either need to be upgraded or replaced in the near future. Members of the EAC attended a site visit of the existing sanitary sewer plant facilities in Morrisville on November 18th and met with representatives of the Morrisville Municipal Authority and the Pennoni, the engineering firm. Possible solutions to the sewer plant problems along with their environmental impacts were discussed.
9. Landuse Reviews – As per our role as a land use review board, the EAC, after site visits and thorough plan reviews, submitted detailed analyses on the following applications:
 - a. Snipes Tract Athletic Fields – Preliminary/Final Plans
 - b. Octagon Center Phase 2 (Dunkin Donuts/Daycare) – Preliminary Plan
 - c. Artis Senior Center Living Facility - Preliminary Plan
 - d. Community Center Construction Compliance with LEEDs Silver requirement
 - e. Erin Development Dobry Road Age-Restricted Housing – Preliminary Plan
 - f. Dogwood Drive 5-Home Subdivision – Final Plan

The following is a list of projects that the EAC intends to pursue in 2018:

- 1) Environmental Lecture Series
- 2) Create a Historic Tree Preservation Ordinance
- 3) Modifications to the Tree Replacement and Woodlands Protection Ordinances
- 4) Implement the Township’s approved tree planting plan by utilizing the tree bank.
- 5) Revise and strengthen the Green building ordinance
- 6) Revive and strengthen the Township’s basin naturalization program
- 7) Expansion of EAC informational and outreach to LMT residents
- 8) Implementation of past LMT commitments to clean power purchasing.
- 9) Work with local grocery stores to limit their use of plastic bags

The year 2017 was a productive one, but not without frustrations, for the Environmental Advisory Council. It is our steadfast opinion that the EAC’s projects translate not only to a better environment in the Township, but to economic savings for the citizens of LMT. As always, it is both a privilege and a pleasure to serve the people of Lower Makefield.

Sincerely,

The LMT EAC

Alan Dresser, Co-chairperson

Peter Solor, Co-chairperson

Paul Roden, Member

Soumya Dharmavaram, Member

Lisa Kampf, Member

Jim Bray, Alternate Member