

Lower Makefield Township
Environmental Advisory Council

June 1, 2020

Meeting Minutes

Present: Linda Salvati, Chairperson; Kevin Gallen, Vice Chairperson; Jim Bray; Soumya Dharmavaram; Alan Dresser; Paul Roden; Fred Weiss, BOS Liaison

The June 1, 2020 meeting of the EAC was held on Zoom, due to restrictions brought on by the Covid19 virus. Ms. Salvati called the meeting to order at 5:30PM.

Approval of March 11, 2020 Minutes – The March 11, 2020 minutes were approved unanimously, with two changes.

Tree Planting 2020 Locations – Ms. Salvati said that the estimated cost for planting 100 trees/shrubs on Patterson Farm was submitted to the Township on May 5. She is waiting to hear back. The EAC members agreed that the Fall would be a good time to do the planting. Ms. Salvati will contact Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Majewski to ascertain whether they agree that the Fall is the right time.

Mr. Bray asked about the trees that have not yet been replaced in the Garden of Reflection. Ms. Salvati will contact Mr. Bray and schedule a time for them to meet on the site to discuss possible locations.

Status of Tree Bank Money – Mr. Dresser noted that the status of the Tree Bank Compliance Ordinance was discussed in the March 11 email thread sent by Mr. Ferguson and including the response from Township Solicitor, Dave Truelove. Ms. Salvati will forward the email to the EAC.

Mr. Bray raised the issue of a provision related to the cost for replacement trees that would be paid by developers if trees were not planted on the development site. A provision stated that every three years the tree cost, \$315 per tree when the Ordinance was adopted, was to be adjusted on a compounded basis by the All Urban Consumer Price Index. He went on to say that he believes there has been no adjustment since the inception of the Ordinance. Mr. Weiss asked that Mr. Bray forward the information to him.

Land Use Plans –

Marrazzo's Townhomes Preliminary Plan – Mr. Dresser noted that the final plan of 11 condominiums on 2.9 acres was approved on May 6. He indicated that the EAC had submitted comments but had not heard back about all of them.

Dogwood Drive – The final plan for this project of five homes on 14 acres near the golf course went before the BOS on April 15. The BOS rejected the project due to the applicant's refusal to pay the tree replacement fee.

Erin Dobry Road – Mr. Dresser said this plan will be up for final approval when it gets to the BOS.

Timko Property – Much of this property is resource protected and a zoning variance is required. The project was heard on May 5. Zoning asked the developer to come back with a plan for a smaller house.

M&M Storage – The sketch plan for the five-story storage facility on a parcel of land behind Kohl's that borders 5-Mile Woods was presented to the Supervisors at their April 15th meeting. The input from the Supervisors on the sketch plan was generally negative.

Mixed Use Overlay District Ordinance – A special hearing on the Wegman's project will be held, through a Zoom meeting, at 7:00 on Thursday, June 11. Mr. Dresser will listen in.

Recycling – It was agreed that the styrofoam collection event, originally scheduled for April, will be held on September 26 in front of the Township Building, from 9:30-Noon. The EAC will begin to advertise it at the beginning of August.

Lecture Series - The lecture which had originally been scheduled for April 18, called "What's Bugging Our Trees in Pennsylvania?" was rescheduled for September 26. However, Mr. Bray suggested it would make sense for him to discuss the feasibility of a webinar or other kind of virtual presentation with the lecturer, in case the COVID-19 virus prohibits an in person event.

Webpage/Newsletter/Facebook – It was suggested that an item that should be highlighted in the media is the land use info.

Ms. Dharmavaram suggested highlighting people in the Township who have green properties, in the newsletter. She will start a list of those properties and ask Mr. Bray and Mr. Dresser to add to it.

Environmental Stewardship Award – Mr. Bray would like to modify the award language so that only one award is given each year, in the sum of \$1,000, rather than two awards of \$500 each. He will forward his suggested wording, as well as the historical background, to Mr. Ferguson, and copy the Supervisors. A motion was taken to approve Mr. Bray's revision of the award wording. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

Year End Review - Ms. Salvati will forward to the EAC a list of items that will be covered in the Year End Review for 2019. Members will respond to her with a write up on their specific items.

Odds and Ends -

Green Region Grant – Mr. Gallen reported that nothing has been published yet.

Ready 100 – Mr. Gallen will try to have a draft resolution for the next BOS meeting. He explained that this project would not require any LMT staff time.

Sustainability PA – There has been no movement on this item. Mr. Weiss indicated that the Township does not have the manpower to pursue this project at this time. Ms. Dharmavaram will put it aside for the present.

With no further business to discuss, the June 1 meeting of the EAC was adjourned at 6:30pm. Ms. Salvati will look into scheduling an outdoor meeting for July. The date and location are to be determined.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Salvati, Chairperson