

**LOWER MAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**JUNE 13, 2024 MEETING MINUTES**

Present: Jim Bray, Chair; Alan Dresser Vice-Chair; Kevin Gallen; Paul Roden; Dominique Mitchell, Alternate Member

Mr. Bray opened the meeting with an explanation that under Pennsylvania municipal law no longer can we have totally zoom meetings. All meetings need to be hybrid allowing for both in-person and zoom attendance. If possible, people should attend the meeting in person.

**Review/Approval of May 9, 2024 Meeting Minutes** – Mr. Bray called for a vote on the May 9, 2024 minutes. Mr. Gallen voted to approve, Mr. Dresser seconded, and the minutes were officially adopted.

**2024 Long-Range Master Tree Plan**- Mr. Majewski handed out the maps he had completed and explained that the plan is 98% finished with just a few minor things that still need to be done. Mr. Dresser asked about a cover page, table of contents and introduction. Mr. Bray said Mr. Majewski will take care of that. Mr. Majewski noted that there is a long term plan to replace some species of trees, such as Bradford Pears that are not doing well. Mr. Bray stated that we will review the plan and get back to Mr. Majewski with our comments on a timely basis

**Recycling** – September 28 is the tentative date for the next Styrofoam etc. collection. Mrs. Dharmavaram and her daughter have been collecting pill bottles from other places and they have information to share on that topic at our next meeting.

**Bird Town-EAC**- Mrs. Bray reported on her collaboration with Jan Filios of Bird Town Newtown. Mrs. Filios invited LMT Bird Town to join her at Newtown’s Welcome Day on June 9. Mrs. Bray said it was a huge success and the pictures of birds that decorated the table brought many people to the table, along with the bird stickers that LMT EAC provided for the kids.

Under discussion for future events are a possible tree festival, another documentary collaboration with Newtown Theater, and the already scheduled October 5 Falconry event.

**Park and Rec Recycling Recommendations** – There was a review of the recommendations. Mr. Bray asked Mr. Gallen to put the recommendations in order and send out to the EAC before the next meeting.

**Proposed Single Use Plastics Ban**- Mr. Bray reported that he had a conversation with Mr. Lewis, Chair of the Board of Supervisors. It concerned inviting Elen Snyder, Newtown Supervisor and the primary person behind the Newtown plastics ban, to speak to the LMT BOS. However, before that request is made, EAC members will meet with Elen to discuss how Newtown’ Ordinance is working. At the meeting Mrs. Mitchell passed out flyers on Single Use Plastics Bans from Penn Environment.

**Update on Land Use Plans**- Other than an EAC May 24 review letter submitted for Wright Farm Subdevelopment, there has been no other activity on Land Use.

**EAC Lecture and Event Series** – Because of popular demand, a second Falconry Exhibition is scheduled for October 5. Mr. Bray commented that parking was an issue in April and that we need to have a parking plan in October.

**Tree City USA**- Mr. Bray researched the conditions needed to be a Tree City. He found that Lower Makefield Township has completed all of them except for an Arbor Day event. Mr. Bray suggested that as part of a future Arbor day event that a selected class from the Pennsbury School system could plant a tree on Twp. Property. Information regarding Tree City USA will be sent to the Twp. Mgr. and the BOS in the near future.

**Model Energy Ordinance** – Mr. Bray asked Mr. Gallen to put the EAC comments in a report the next couple of weeks. After a review by the EAC next mtg. this info will be sent to the LMT Plan. Comm.

**Solar for LMT**– Township Manager Dave Kratzer will be hiring a solar consultant in the near future.

**Heritage Tree Investigation** – Mr. Bray is trying to get in touch with a representative from Big Trees of Pennsylvania to discuss a resident’s Hackberry tree that might be a candidate for the Big Tree Program. He will continue to work on this project.

**Open Space Recommendations and Ballot Referendum** – Mr. Bray noted that this topic will be on the June 19 BOS agenda and feels it will be passed. EAC member(s) will attend the mtg. to offer information that should be helpful to the BOS in making their decision. If passed, the referendum for a 15 million O.S. Bond Issue will appear on the Nov. 5, 2024 Ballot. Six potential properties have already been found by the EAC.

**EAC and Township Newsletters** – Mr. Roden will send out another newsletter, including articles about the plastics ban, the October Falconry and Bird Town.

**Odds and Ends**- Mr. Dresser will update the EAC web page as well as forwarding updated stormwater info to the members.

With no further business to discuss, the June 13, 2024 EAC meeting was called to adjourn. Mr. Dresser voted to adjourn, Mr. Roden seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 7:10PM. The next EAC meeting will be held on July 11, 2024 at 6PM in person.

Respectfully Submitted,

James Bray, Chairperson