

**LOWER MAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
APRIL 11, 2024 HYBRID MEETING

Present: Jim Bray, Chair; Alan Dresser, Vice-Chair; Kevin Gallen; Linda Salvati; Dominique Mitchell, Alternate Member; Paul Roden; Matthew Ross, EAC Liaison

The first order of business was review and approval of the EAC January 11, 2024 and March 14, 2024 minutes. Mr. Bray called for a vote, and all approved the minutes. Mr. Bray will forward them to the Township.

**2024 Long-Range Master Tree Plan and Spring Planting** – Mr. Bray reported that he asked Mr. Majewski when the tree plan is going to be ready. Mr. Majewski indicated it would be ready in a week or so. He said that the Public Works Director hasn't finished checking out all the basins where tree plantings are planned to verify the locations are appropriate. Mr. Bray expressed concern that we would miss the spring planting season. They agreed to set up a meeting in the next week. Ms. Salvati recommended that the planting not go too far into June unless they have tree gaters that will water the plantings.

**Recycling** – The next LMT EAC Styrofoam Plus batteries, corks and pill bottles will be held on April 20 from 10-12 noon in the LMT parking lot. This event is held three times a year. Additional volunteers would be helpful.

**LMT EAC Bird Town PA Falconry Exhibition**- The LMT EAC Bird Town PA will be hosting a Falconry Exhibition on April 20 at 3pm at the Memorial Garden. All are welcome and there is no charge.

**LMT Parks and Recreation Cleanup Day Request**- Ms. Tierney, Director of Park and Rec, will be asking for volunteers for a cleanup day of a selected park. The date has yet to be determined.

**Park and Rec - Recycling Suggestions** – Comments and suggestions were sent to the EAC on April 3 for their review.

**Update on Land Use Plans** - Mr. Dresser reported that a March 29, 2024, EAC comment letter from the EAC on the **Fieldstone-Harris Tract Subdivision** (29 homes) had been submitted. There were six comments, including one concerning the plans not showing a large area of qualifying woodlands near Edgewood Road. The preliminary plan has not yet gone before the Planning Comm.

A new preliminary plan was recently submitted for a portion of the **Wright Farm**. The plan proposes 47 new homes on 50 acres. There is no resource protected land on the site. No date for submittal of comments has been given. Traffic flow to/from the development will be a problem.

**EAC Lecture Series**- Mr. Bray suggested that there may be lectures on single use plastics and/or native plants in the spring or fall.

**Municipal Tree Programs** - Ms. Dharnavarnam analyzed several municipal tree programs and listed them in a chart detailing their specific benefits. After a discussion of the relative merits of the various programs, the EAC voted unanimously to select Tree City USA. One of the main factors was Tree City USA seems to be the poster child of municipal Tree Programs. Also, many surrounding communities have signed up for that program.

**Model Energy Ordinance/Solar for LMT**- Mr. Gallen will be discussing Solar for LMT in his upcoming April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting with Mr. Kratzer. He had sent out some preliminary comments to the EAC on the Model Energy Ordinance before the meeting. After his meeting with Mr. Kratzer, he will send out a draft of all comments on LMT solar and the model ordinance to all EAC members. These comments will be discussed at the May meeting.

**Heritage Tree Ordinance** – A Lower Makefield resident called Mr. Bray to say she has a very large Huckleberry tree in her yard. He and other EAC member(s) will visit the tree and take some measurements of its size. The results will be reported at our next meeting.

**Open Space Referendum** - Mr. Dresser reported that the EAC has compiled a list of six properties that are strong open space candidates. Descriptions and photos of the properties are contained in a April 12, 2024 EAC letter to the BOS. In addition, the email to the BOS with this letter also requested the BOS consider placing an Open Space Bond Referendum on the November 5<sup>th</sup> ballot. A June 15, 2023, letter with Information listing the steps required to create such a referendum previously sent to the BOS was resent. A discussion of the open space bond referendum issue is on the BOS agenda of their April 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**EAC and Township Newsletters** – Mr. Roden will send a newsletter with information on the April 20 Recycling and Falconry events.

With no further business to discuss, the April 11 EAC meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be a hybrid mtg. on May 9<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully Submitted,

James Bray, Chair