

LOWER MAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

MARCH 14, 2024 MINUTES

PRESENT: Jim Bray, Chairman; Alan Dresser, Co-Chair; Kevin Gallen; Paul Roden
Also in attendance was Dominique Mitchell, the EAC's new Alternate Member

Mr. Bray called the 6 pm hybrid meeting to order.

The first order of business was review and approval of the January 11, 2024 meeting minutes. The minutes could not be approved as there were not enough members in attendance to make a quorum. However, there was a quorum the February 8, 2024 minutes so Mr. Bray asked for a vote and the minutes passed.

Mr. Bray welcomed Ms. Mitchell as an Alternate Member to the EAC. She is passionate about environmental issues and it was agreed that she will be a great addition to the EAC.

Stormwater Ordinance Update - Jonathan Robinson of HRG Consultants made a presentation on several proposed changes to LMT's stormwater management ordinances. These changes can be done quickly and are considered Phase 1 of the process. Later this year additional changes will be proposed in Phase 2. The proposed changes in Phase 1 will strengthen stormwater management and the EAC is in favor of their approval by the BOS. The EAC will follow-up tomorrow with an email to the Township with our specific comments.

2024 Long-Range Master Tree Plan – The plan is nearing completion. The EAC will receive a finished version by Comitta and Assoc. allowing enough lead time before our next mtg. so that plant selections and locations can be thoroughly reviewed and possible changes recommended. At this time Comitta and Assoc. is planning to be at our 4-11-24 Mtg.

Recycling – The next recycling event will be held on April 20 from 10 am - Noon at the LMT Township Building. Collection will include Styrofoam, natural corks, pill bottles, and batteries. If you are interested in volunteering to help, contact Jeanne Bray at jjyardley56@gmail.com Also, Mr. Kratzer suggested that we hand out a flyer at the event publicizing the EAC's projects.

Update on Land Use Plans – Fieldstone's preliminary plan was just submitted. It calls for building 29 houses on a 39-acre site along Edgewood Road. Mr. Dresser will be submitting a comment letter in the near future. The correct identification of existing woodlands is a concern. On March 22nd there will be a walk through the property at 8:30am which is open to the public.

Audubon PA Bird Town Program – Mrs. Bray reported that there was a presentation of two large Bird Town signs to the Township by Heidi Shiver (President of Bird Town PA) at the March 6 BOS meeting. Also, there will be a Falconry demonstration on April 20 at 3 p.m. at Memorial Park in LMT. This event will be heavily publicized. All are welcome and there is no charge.

EAC Lecture Series – Possible topics for future lectures are LMT’s Native Plant Ord and Single Use Plastics.

Municipal Tree Programs – Mrs. Dharmavaram was not in attendance to report on her suggestion for top three candidates for Tree certification. Mr. Bray will ask her to send that information out before the next meeting.

Model Energy Ordinance – The Planning Commission asked that the EAC take a look at this Ordinance. Mr. Bray will add it to the agenda for the next meeting.

Solar for LMT - This subject will be discussed at the next EAC meeting. EAC Member Kevin Gallen has volunteered to discuss this project with Twp. Manager Dave Kratzer.

Heritage Tree Ordinance- This subject will be discussed at the next meeting.

Open Space Ballot Referendum –Mr. Dresser will make a list of possible open space parcels the Township should concern purchasing and bring it to the April meeting.

Environmental Stewardship Award Ceremony of March 6th – Mr. Bray reported that the Award Ceremony went off very smoothly. The recipients were well pleased and already have some plans for the \$1,000 award. Good publicity for LMT

EAC and Township Newsletters – Mr. Roden reported that the EAC newsletters advertising the upcoming bird documentary on April 2 and the Recycling Event and Falconry Event on April 20 were both sent out.

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Bray called for the meeting to adjourn. All were in favor. The next EAC meeting will be held on April 11, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jim Bray, Chair