

LOWER MAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

DECEMBER 11, 2026

Present: Jim Bray, Chair; Alan Dresser, Vice-Chair; Cheryl Coffee; Soumya Dharmavaram; Dominique Mitchell; Elizabeth Quigley; Paul Roden; Eleanor Turner; John Lewis, Supervisor Liaison

The first item on the agenda was review and approval of the November 13 meeting minutes. Mr. Dresser made a motion to approve the minutes, Ms. Turner seconded the motion and all approved.

DCNR and Other Grants – Mr. Bray mentioned two grants – PA grants for electrical car charging stations and PA DCNR-C2P2 open space acquisition grants. He mentioned that he and Mr. Dresser were meeting with Township Manager, Dave Kratzer in a few days and would discuss these grants with him.

Tree Tender Discussion – LMT resident Carla Kimmel-Smith was in attendance to participate in the Tree Tender discussion. Mr. Bray indicated that there is interest, given how many trees are being planted in the Township, in finding a way to get ongoing maintenance of the trees. He indicated that the Township had an active Tree Tenders group in the past but it did not last for long for various reasons. Ms. Smith is a certified advance level Tree Tender and has expressed an interest in leading a group in LMT. Mr. Bray and Ms. Smith will meet in the near future to discuss.

Heritage Tree Ordinance – Ms. Coffee will be heading up the placing of Heritage Trees on the LMT List. Mr. Bray suggested she start with LMT Trees such as the Cucumber Magnolia at Patterson Farm and the Franklinia Tree at Slate Hill Cemetery.

Strategic Planning - Ms. Coffee has been looking into many other issues which she feels could provide opportunities for the EAC to collaborate with others and make a positive difference. Greenhouse gases, stormwater management, open space are examples. Ms. Dharmavaram and Ms. Turner were interested in joining with Ms. Coffee on these topics. Mr. Bray suggested that they work together on the project.

LMT Golf Course – Mr. Bray And Mr. Dresser, in response to a request from the LMT BOS, developed a plan to plant 157 trees and 105 shrubs at the LMT Golf Course. This will be very helpful to the Golf Course in acquiring Advanced Audubon Certification.

Recycling- The next Styrofoam Recycling Event will be held on Jan. 10, 2026 Because it is an after Holidays event this collection is always popular. Also, we need volunteers.

Bird Town PA – LMT's Bird Town PA held a lecture on November 15 on Birds and their habitats. It was given by Juanita Hummel, a well-known Naturalist who has been very involved with birds for over 40 years. It was very well received with 40+ attendees.

We are planning a "day for the birds", a Saturday tbd in May, that will include a bird walk, a childrens' program, and live bird program. You won't want to miss this.

Land Use Reviews – In the last month no new development plans were submitted to the Township.

Environmental Stewardship Award – The very popular Refillery in Yardley Borough has been chosen as the 2025 winner. A plaque has been ordered and an award date will be scheduled in the near future.

EAC Lecture Series for 2026 – The next event is "Naughty by Nature" on 2-14-26 is an entertaining and very interesting lecture by Mike Weilbacher. It is being brought back because it was so well-received last Valentines' Day.

Two new different and very interesting lectures are being brought to us by Eleanor Turner, a new member of the EAC. On 3-14-2026 a lecture on AI (Artificial Intelligence) and the Grid will be hosted by an expert in the field. On 4- 8-26 Ms. Turner will give a talk on the environmental Impacts of "Fast Fashion".

Odds and Ends – Mr. Bray will talk to Ms. Tierney about sharing names on the P&R List

There were three volunteers for cleaning the signs in the Garden of Reflection.

Mrs. Mitchell recommended that we bring in Heather Guidice from Kona Composting for a lecture.

With no more business to do, the meeting was brought to an end.

Respectfully Submitted,

James Bray, Chair

