

# ALBANY TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

**Kempton Fire Company Social Hall**

**2461 Route 143, Kempton, Pennsylvania**

**Monday February 7, 2022, 7:30 p.m.**

**Attending:** Jeff Schucker, Chair; Bracken Brown, Noah Rauch, Randy Hensinger, Tom Kerr, Laurie Goodrich, Anita Zawada, Stephanie Stoudt.

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes of January reviewed. Randy made one correction to state he is not involved in film. All approved unanimously with this one correction.

**EAC membership:** Jeff reported that at the January meeting the Supervisors approved changing bylaws of EAC to reflect EAC membership can increase to 8 members.

## **Old Business:**

**Recommended Plant list for Township website:** Noah met with Todd and will continue this work.

**AT Maps:** Bracken has electronic versions of two corrected maps. Needs to find the other electronic maps (Tom has maybe). Bracken will print out maps at Hawk Mountain or with Jon Bond and get mounted on poster board hopefully before March.

**No mow Areas:** Bracken reported that stakes need to be put out by early May and he can contact landowners mentioned before. Group discussed how to make other residents aware of this option. Agreed to post on our facebook and webpages and to announce at March meeting. Bracken said they would be painted with some color and road crew made aware of that color. Could bring stakes to March meeting to distribute. Need some written instructions on where to place them, why important, and when. Jeff said he can assist. Bracken will take lead. Time period for staking would be May to October to cover most flowering plants. Also, the idea of keeping mow height high is another option for late fall mowing to protect plant roots.

**Social media update:** Bracken will post two new maps soon and ask Tom if he has digital versions of other maps. Noah said he can help manage and post on facebook etc. Noah and Bracken to confer on this. Laurie noted, just nice photos of township are useful to share. All should send photos to Bracken.

**Albany Township Film:** Noah reported he and Todd met with Berks Nature and got some footage of best practices. Need to film a few landowners still. Noah said he will have outline of film soon and he is capable of editing it down. There is chance to show film in August or October.

At the Planning Commission last month they discussed an ordinance for solar. Anita reported there has not been much progress but it was on the agenda as topic tonight. Randy said he would be attending Planning Commission meeting tonight. (Randy and Anita departed at 8:05 pm for Planning Commission meeting.)

**Programs in 2022:**

January program set for 1/25 with PA Game Commission foresters, Curtis Noll and J. Weaver, was rescheduled due to Covid to **March 29<sup>th</sup>**. Meet up at 6:15 for set up with jobs as assigned before. Tom or Jeff to get key and all set up chairs. Randy asked if we can also give update on how the Bolich property protection happened. Laurie agreed to provide that background. Randy noted that Jon Bond donated the sign for the March program for EAC. Please thank Jon everyone! We discussed if we should have the stock of handouts and displays etc. at meeting, and where the boxes were. Decided yes bring it all and hope it goes.

Other programs: Bracken still able to talk on kestrels in Albany but will rescheduled to May 10th and invite Sue Robertson to be there as well. Also, a good time to distribute stakes. Jeff invited all to attend a benefit for Kempton Community Center in early April, a lip sync contest April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Discussed Fair briefly but no hard decision on if we want to have table again. Tom reported the roadside clean up will occur in April as well.

**New Business:**

Signage at the Park: Todd and Chris S. had spoken about this before December. Todd had suggested we could get a small grant to pay for improvements or signage in the park, such as importance of natural areas, wetlands etc. possible butterfly garden. Nothing has happened since December. Jeff will inquire with Chris what he was envisioning for this. Laurie will get details of possible grant by March 2022 meeting. Could be signage for importance of wildlife habitat, wetlands, or a butterfly garden, etc.

EAC adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Submitted by,

*Laurie Goodrich*

Laurie Goodrich

EAC Secretary