

ALBANY TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Kempton Fire Company Social Hall

2461 Route 143, Kempton, Pennsylvania

Monday February 5, 2024

7:30 - 8:30 pm

Attending: Noah Rauch, Vice-Chair; Tom Kerr, Dale Derr, Randy Hensinger, Anita Zawada, Laurie Goodrich. **Absent:** Bracken Brown Chair.

Secretary's Report: Laurie distributed minutes from January. Minutes reviewed and approved unanimously.

Current Activities:

- 1) February 20th program on Farmland Raptors with live birds, Bracken, and Hawk Mountain staff. Randy said he can get a sign out on 143 as per usual. Noah will help with audiovisual set up. All should meet around 630 for set up. Tom on cookies and will send flyer out on e list.
- 2) March 12th program on Pine Martin reintroduction and Fishers in Pennsylvania by PGC biologist Thomas Keller. Laurie sent photo and information to Tom for flyer. Randy mentioned PGC board seemed to table the reintroduction idea for now. Laurie mentioned she will follow up with him and we will need laptop to connect to the FC projector. Noah to help.
- 3) May program. Noah has met with two possible presenters from Stroud Water Resource Center and Maiden Creek Watershed. Discussed possibly to give watershed overview, water sampling done, and threats to waterways. Laurie asked about giving overview of data gathering system to archive (where does it get stored for analysis), and water quality over time. Who gets data and what is done with it.
- 4) April 20th is roadside cleanup in township. Tom will get details to group. Laurie working at HM that date.

Other Activities:

Kutztown University communication-Designathon. There is meeting 23rd Feb that Dale and Noah will attend. Students have 12 hours to complete. We present ideas on 9th of February. Key ideas identified are a 3 sided display and social media posts about our conservation advisories or just beauty of township. Dale will fill out application.

Media: Noah asked everyone to work on a social media post and send to him.

New Business

Dale mentioned Berks Nature could be good resource for both education program for adults, such as easements, or for kids and youth. Andrew Fetterman is the land person and does a good job on his programs. Tom and Randy mentioned getting youth involved is always nice. Streamside plantings possible. Laurie mentioned we have had Larry Lloyd discuss easements about a year ago, but can do it again. There was some interest in having an outdoor youth program perhaps in summer, if they had something like that to present.

Dale relayed the recent Facebook post about debris building up on Trexler bridge in stream. He suggested a program on stormwater runoff could be interesting, flooding risks, laws in place, etc. He has contact at Berks Planning Commission.

Dale mentioned the Albany Tomorrow Fund might be a source for funding for EAC work, possibly speaker fees. Laurie mentioned the funding we spent on best practices tour. Noah said we covered that out of our 1000\$ budget possibly display and brochure printing. ATF applications are due March 15. Ideas also discussed included items for Albany Township Park including: signage, bird and plant information, possibly a system of QR code posts. Dale suggested biology students could be engaged from KU too. Tom said he is willing to assist on a grant. The group decided to visit with Albany Parks committee to see if they want help on any of these. Parks said they were already intending to submit a grant or two on signage and some other topics. Tom offered to assist. EAC concluded they did not need our assistance.

Submitted by,

Laurie Goodrich

Albany Township EAC Secretary