

ALBANY TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Kempton Fire Company Social Hall

2461 Route 143, Kempton, Pennsylvania

Monday July 3, 2023

7:30 - 8:30 pm

Attending: Bracken Brown, Chair; Noah Rauch, Anita Zawada, Randy Hensinger, Tom Kerr

Absent: Laurie Goodrich, Stephanie Stoudt

Secretary's Report: Meeting called to order at 7:32. Minutes from last meeting unanimously approved.

Public Forum

Bird Walk on June 10th at Albany Park: Bird walk went well. Anita attended and said it was very informative and that what she learned has stuck with her over the passed few weeks. Kudos to Bracken and Laurie for their knowledgeability. Short notice but received a nice attendance of eight community members.

Kempton Fair: Display at the fair seemed to have a good turnover. EAC handouts and materials were dispersed with not much left on table at end of event. Tom said worthwhile to have a table at the fair, and Bracken added that maps alone are great engagement for the community.

Current Activities:

Township Videos: Continued gathering of footage for the first short video to be posted on facebook. Hoping to have a draft to share with the group and the supervisors for next meeting.

Social Media: Tom and Noah both made posts on the EAC Facebook page in hopes of more traffic and engagement to the page. Noah posted a video and a request for photos of the township to update the EAC Cover photo, to which we received two responses. He will update photo within the month. Tom posted a nice photo of a bluebird in a nest box to highlight local species. Posting will be continued in the coming month.

Duck Houses and animal carcass composting: Noah provided handouts on township ordinances in intensive livestock and copies of the right to farm act. Bracken brought up the topic of water quality being first and foremost of EAC mindfulness. He also brought up need for stringent manure management plan (DEP would support, as well as trouts unlimited). Anita mentioned that landowner will invoke right to farm. Bracken said he's unsure if they will be able to enact right to farm on that property. Termination of the dairy farm would allow him to open up room for

duck houses. All recommendations on this subject from EAC will be strictly on environmental aspects.

Old Business

No mow area in Albany Park: 4 Grasshopper Sparrows and one Meadowlark located in no mow area. Possible request from Josh Brown for adjustment to cutting area.

Bus Tour idea: Checked pricing from Ed's auto rental. Randy mentioned we should check on licensing for passenger driving and see how many people are allowed to be transported without special licensing. Bracken reached out to Larry but he is unable to completely commit until we propose some dates to him.

Forest land-owner mailing: Tom is continuing to working on this and is re-building email list that was tragically lost. American forestry foundation doesn't want to do emails, but will fund postage for direct mailings to land-owners with over 50 acres in the township. EAC's Logo and Hawk Mountain logo will be available on the mailing for direct tie in to the community. Tom said he can send an email blast as well once the list is back up and running.

New Business:

Randy suggested a possible topic of Native Americans of the local area. Bracken said it would serve as a nice crossover with the historical society. East Stroudsburg is willing to give a talk about ticks in the coming months, but a date is still to be determined.

Next Meeting is: August 7th

Adjourned 8:06 pm

Submitted by,

Noah Rauch

Albany EAC Vice Chair