

ALBANY TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Kempton Fire Company Social Hall
2461 Route 143, Kempton, Pennsylvania

Monday August 5, 2024

7:32 - 8:30 pm

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

Secretary's Report: Laurie distributed minutes from July by email. Minutes with roll call correction were reviewed and approved. Vote Call: Bracken- yes, Noah-yes, Anita-yes, Laurie-yes.

Agenda

Announcements

Purple Loosestrife. Bracken posted on Facebook about loosestrife and its invasive nature and encouraging people to mow or remove it, since in bloom currently it is easy to identify.

Noah posted about the August 8th event at Hawk Mountain by stewardship seasonal staff and their work in the forest and invasive control.

A Berks County EAC group is starting to increase communication and idea sharing. Bracken has been in touch with the group.

September 24th Stormwater program. Flyer should go out early September. 6 pm start so set up by 5 pm or 530? Noah reported signs will cost 30\$, and he will talk to Dale about getting those made.

Other program topics

Another conservation best practices driving tour discussed with possible date of May.

September Kempton celebration. Bracken will inquire about having an EAC table set up. September 28. There is discussion about a township cleanup prior to event which EAC can assist with. More info later. Discussed highlighting the riparian buffer planting at event.

October public meeting to focus possibly on solar ideas. Discussion session not formal meeting. EAC can host if Supervisors and Planning Commission approve, to get ideas from public about any solar ordinance.

Current activities:

Planning Commission and solar discussion. Tom Kerr circulated the links from WeConservePA website. Bracken suggested we can print out the powerpoint as Pdf and circulate as well.

Anita Zawada left the meeting to attend the PC meeting 8 pm

Discussion on solar environmental topics to discuss with Planning Commission ensured: including Kittatinny Corridor for bird migration, reflectivity-bird strike issue-keep reflectivity low, break up large fields into smaller units, mark wires to prevent bird strikes or bury, decommissioning plan, setback from other properties to avoid view impacts, viewshed issues for Pinnacle and Hawk Mountain, require wetland and stream buffers to reduce runoff issues, fencing—try to not require or encourage fences that disrupt wildlife corridors.

New Business. Noah and Bracken suggested a Facebook series on invasives and natives with focus on removing the invasives and replacing with other alternative. Noah to work on this topic. Bracken suggested the plant photos and posts could be put in album on facebook for future reference.

EAC meeting ended 8:15 pm. EAC attended Planning Commission meeting.

Submitted by,

Laurie Goodrich, Albany Township EAC Secretary