

**ALBANY TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Kempton Fire Company Social Hall**

**2461 Route 143, Kempton, Pennsylvania**

**Monday May 2, 2022, 7:37 p.m.**

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

**AGENDA**

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes from April 4 were distributed, reviewed, and accepted unanimously with one correction, Tom Kerr was absent at last meeting and in March.

***Public Forum***

***Current Activities***

**Road Clean up:** A total of 20 people showed up and several roads were successfully cleaned. Noah and his crew pulled more tires than ever from stony run valley road.

**May 10th Program:** Jeff has posted flyers at various places. Bracken will post on Facebook and also send out a “no mow” reminder. The plan is to meet here 6:15 pm for set up. Noah and Bracken will have AV equipment, Bracken is giving talk. We will set out flyers and no mow stakes. Laurie can call Cheryl and see about Sue attending. (Sue was unable to attend so her name was taken off flyer).

**Kempton Fair:** Jeff and Bracken will set up table and put out flyers.

**Family Forest Carbon Program on September 13:** The program will be on a Tuesday night, and the Fire Company has been reserved (doublecheck with Tom?). It will start at 7 pm and feature the forester from the program. Need to find out if Tom can do flyer and when information is needed. Laurie will compile background and be in touch with speaker to confirm.

**Hawk Mountain reception, November 15<sup>th</sup>:** Because the September speaker did not think she could speak fully in shorter time frame, we moved the Hawk Mountain and conservation easement discussion to November. Hawk Mountain will host and provide refreshments with a holiday theme, at Visitor Center. Todd Bauman can go over what we are doing to address invasives in forest and Larry Lloyd can talk about new funding for private easements along the Kittatinny Ridge. Wine and cheese, sodas, etc.

Other programs for future: Jeff asked if we would want to have a program on Avian Flu. Berks extension person might be willing. Laurie will call them. Could be a zoom or Facebook program?

**Albany Virtual Film Tour:** Noah said the film is moving ahead. Todd and Noah will interview a few key people to add to film and they are working on an outline which Noah will share at next meeting or June meeting. It will include questions to answer for film production.

**Invasives in the Park:** Noah visited the Albany Park and developed list of invasives and natives. He mostly walked wooded portion but wants to explore it wider. A group planted trees on Saturday April 30 near the parking lot. Todd, Steve Hamm, with Larry Lloyd and others. Jeff said maybe we can take care of invasives with a volunteer group. Large field portion could be nice for grassland birds if not mowed as much. Steve Hamm reported more funding for trees is coming. Thistle is an issue that has to be addressed. Jeff will ask Tom about researching for funding for Park. We can have a work day to address invasives in next month. Liability issue. Could have a waiver. Could do July evening volunteer event pulling.

**Plant List:** Noah has gotten list from Todd. Todd has written an introduction to plant list. Noah distributed the list for comment. Noah will send link around.

**Volunteer:** Bracken says he spoke to the Leaser Lake volunteer organizer and found out they are covered through county park system for their liability. Jeff said he would talk with Scott Burnett on what this entails. He thought the Kempton Community Center had a waiver for volunteers to sign and perhaps that is possible.

### ***New Business***

**Albany Weed Ordinance** is on the webpage. Noah reviewed it quickly. Laurie wants to be sure the no mow areas are possible, and nonnatives discouraged. It was suggested that everyone read it over, Noah will send it around by email to everyone to review. Bracken mentioned that the practice of roadside scrapping with filler added enhances invasive spread.

**Mosquito Spraying:** Berks Conservation District sent a letter to Jeff and Township supervisors for 2022 season. Spraying will begin on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, as will the surveillance for mosquito larvae and adults. Spraying is done with 48-hour notice to residents (how?)

If see dead birds (from spray?) or West Nile virus we are supposed to report to on DEP website, [Gis.dep.pa.gov/WNV](http://Gis.dep.pa.gov/WNV).

EAC meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm

Minutes Submitted by,

*Laurie Goodrich*

Laurie Goodrich

EAC Secretary