

ALBANY TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Kempton Fire Company Social Hall

2461 Route 143, Kempton, Pennsylvania

September 11, 2023

7:30 - 8:00 pm

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

Secretary's Report: August minutes were circulated by email and at meeting. Minutes reviewed and approved unanimously.

Tree Buffers for Burkholder Duck Farm: Bracken prepared a letter for the Supervisors on the proposed tree buffers, summarizing the council's prior input. He circulated the letter. After discussion, Randy moved we approve the letter, Anita seconded, all approved. Bracken will give letter to Supervisor's this evening.

over the summer. He hopes to have time to work on it later this year.

Township Tour: Noah and Bracken are organizing. The tour will occur on October 8th at 1 pm. Larry Lloyd has agreed to participate and we will rent two 15 passenger vans and have people pre register. Possible places for tour include: Bad Farm, Zettlemoyers, Bolichs, Albrights property, Pine Creek restoration, Community center tree planting buffer, Hawk Mountain forest recovery sites. Meet at Kempton Fire Co. Tom agreed to assist with poster design and promotion.

Current Activities

Forest Carbon: Tom shared that he finally was able to work with Family Forest Carbon program to send out flyers to people of certain acreage in township, to notify them of this opportunity.

Public Programs

Laurie has set up a PA Game Commission talk on pine marten and fisher for March 12. There was talk about talk on water resources or quality. Is there a suggested speaker identified?

Native American or local history talk. Randy had mentioned a person. We need to confirm someone and possibly invite Historical Society to co-host. Hawk Mt has Lenape program coming up this fall. With Bus tour and Christmas party we might be scheduling for next year at this point.

New Business

Bracken reminded members that the We Conserve PA group has some good zoom programs coming up on warehouses, solar ordinances, etc. See their website, most are free.

Council adjourned early to attend the Planning Commission meeting where a large number of residents were sitting in for a public comment period to discuss proposed duck barn facility.

Issues brought up by public included: impacts on water quality, local wells, Pine Creek and ground water quality and quantity. The spreading of Sam Adams sludge and what is being spread being unknown, dust and dirt into air from fans, dead bird disposal and smell, are they bringing waste in from other farms, health impacts for residents, viewshed from Pinnacle and Hawk Mountain as well as noise and smell for recreational users of Trail and gamelands, and impacts on migratory birds with avian influenza spread a high possibility at concentrated farm site. Questions also asked about required water and air testing after installed, who is checking and accountable, and how violations are addressed. Manure pit and barn both appear to present issue. Impacts on property values mentioned and need to test well and ground water now before installation. AT asked if barn could be placed lower elevation and built with nonreflective materials and not put on current proposed hilltop site but they strongly asked that it not be built at all since location is directly in front of Pinnacle.

Submitted by,

Laurie Goodrich

Albany EAC Secretary