

ALBANY TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL (EAC) MEETING MINUTES

Kempton Fire Company
2461 Route 143 Kempton, Pennsylvania
Monday, January 5, 2026

Attendance: Barbara Jucker, Thomas Kerr, Noah Rauch, Garrett Schorran

Meeting was called to order at 7:31 P.M. and the previous meetings minutes were approved

Chairman's presentation:

- Noah Rauch stated he was content to remain EAC Chairman, and Thomas Kerr will serve as Vice-Chairman.
- Albany Township Planning Commission moved their meeting up to 7:30, so Anita Zawata is unable to make the EAC meeting
 - If Anita approves, it was suggested to move EAC meeting up to 7 or 7:15 so she can attend until the EAC roster is filled out
- Original ordinance establishing the EAC was distributed by Noah for background and guidance for current EAC membership

Public Programs:

- Noah noted that funds are available via request and agreement from the supervisors to cover possible presenter costs.
 - March: IN PROGRESS: Noah contacted Tom Keller regarding a Mountain Lion (or other) presentation for March. Suggested a Tuesday, 7:00 P.M. presentation time, however this is flexible.
 - May: IN PROGRESS: Noah noted the bat rehab group have not responded (possible hibernation), however has a contact at Fort Indiantown Gap who is a bat biologist and is a possible lead for a presentation.
 - July: IN PROGRESS: Habitat Restoration or Forest Ecology presentation. Doing an outdoor nature walk with species ID program at the Township park is current plan, and offers a great way to collaborate with the Parks and Rec committee.
 - August: Noah in talks with Edge of the Woods for a pollinator meadow program
- Barb inquired about doing an acorn propagation/ oak restoration program, ideal for late fall, which was positively received.

Social Media:

Noah will post winter scene photo contest on the EAC page, as well as two invasive weed posts (Japanese Knotweed and English Ivy). Jury is still out on whether Albany Township Residents counts as Invasive weeds or just invasive, so no social posts planned for those yet!

Recruitment:

Noah and Tom have inquired with a few people to grow the EAC committee. If any committee member thinks of someone who would be a strong addition let the EAC know and bring them to a meeting!

Solar Ordinance:

- A draft version of the Solar Ordinance is with the Planning commission. Data Centers are the newest change in development interest and Noah brought literature for the committee to review. Currently, the Township would like to bundle the Solar and Data Center Ordinance. EAC action item homework is to do

some reading on Data Center development in the news, particularly State laws which may supersede local ordinance and how local ordinance still governs Data Center development. This is still fluid, Federal and State Legislation or Regulatory interpretations are being debated now.

New Business:

- Noah distributed a list of potential EAC topics drafted a few years ago. A number of the items were completed, however there are fresh ideas on the list as well as possible opportunities to revisit previous work.

- In order of importance for EAC members to help guide the Supervisors and educate the public

A) Data Centers

B) Zoning and its effects on land use/environmental impacts

C) Regenerative Agriculture

-Data Centers take current priority with intended bundling with the Solar Ordinance.

- Perhaps an AI generated movie of Noah fighting Japanese Knotweed with spent uranium from a data center power plant dropped via drone will help with EAC recruitment!

Closing Joke of the Month: Many thanks to Thomas Kerr for January's joke: What do you call a group of two crows? An attempted murder!

-Noah has February's joke on deck

Meeting adjourned at 8:13 P.M.

Humbly Submitted,

Garrett Schorran, Secretary EAC..