

ALBANY TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Kempton Fire Company Social Hall

2461 Route 143, Kempton, Pennsylvania

Monday March 7, 2022, 7:30 p.m.

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

Secretary's Report: Minutes from February distributed by email to group. Unanimously approved.

Current Activities

March 29th Program: Game Commission program rescheduled from January will have a 7 pm start time. The EAC will meet up 6:15 pm here, speakers will show up around 6:30 pm. refreshments Tom Kerr agreed to bring cookies for afterwards. Noah and Bracken will bring laptop, extension cords, and set up all connecting with HDMI cord to overhead projector. Flyers have been distributed and Tom and Bracken will put out publicity on email and Facebook. Jeff will do introduction of speakers. It was decided to have maps on display and after PGC program to discuss the option for landowners to create no mow areas and we will have roadside mowing stakes available at program. (Laurie suggested since she cannot attend, to delay discussion on Newell to later program). Other programs will be announced at March program.

Other programs: Kestrel program May 10th: Bracken will present an EAC program on local long-term kestrel work on May 10th. Sue Robertson might join him. Tom will do notification of the program.

Family Forest Carbon program: Group discussed timing of a program on family carbon option for landowners. It was decided to hold it in September. Jeff suggested we could do at Hawk Mountain amphitheater, date of September 13th suggested, and Laurie will confirm with presenter from Forest Foundation who works with Nature Conservancy to implement the program statewide.

Hawk Mt and Berks Nature: Hawk Mountain would like to share its land and forest stewardship conservation activities at a program. It was suggested to hold this in conjunction with forest carbon event. Laurie said she would check into that option and report back.

Social Media: Bracken reported he is sharing township maps on Facebook, and posting the talk flyer mid month. Bracken will post again before the talk.

AT Maps: Bracken reported that the updated maps are printed but need to be mounted. Laurie asked where the maps are stored? Tom relayed all township maps are in Fire Company closet. It was decided to display them at the program in March.

Albany Township Volunteer group: The supervisors had suggested the EAC could help organize a group of volunteers to assist with various work. Jeff reported there were additional questions to investigate before we move ahead so he would discuss further with Supervisors.

Township Park: Steve Hamm on behalf of Albany Recreation advisory group would like to meet with us tonight to review plan for Albany Park. Steve shared a map of proposed and existing trails and asked for EAC input. He mentioned the need for funding for the work. Larry Lloyd has met with Steve and walked the site to provide input. identified which plants to take out. The EAC should review the weed ordinance, on the website, to see if it needs updating.

Albany Virtual Film Tour: The film was conceived over a year ago as a way to celebrate environmental best practices to conserve environment and township natural beauty. Noah reported he and Todd were sorting film footage and might have an outline by next month's meeting. They still need to record landowner interviews but have most of the parts they will need.

Township Roadside Cleanup: Tom reported Lions Club is seeking help from EAC to promote clean up to volunteers. It is scheduled on April 16th, Lions Club will need trucks, like Hawk Mountain's pick up, and volunteers. Promote at program? Jeff or Tom will ask if Supervisors can secure roll-off again.

Solar ordinance: Anita reported the topic is on the agenda but nothing new was underway from the planning commission at present. Randy said he attended a public hearing in Windsor Township on a solar development proposal for 240-acre farmland area off route 22. A lot of residents attended.

Procedures with Agenda: Jeff reported that he has found out that advisory boards do not need to post their agendas in advance of the meeting as they are advisory. He will verify this with Supervisors and solicitor. Jeff will confirm this at Supervisor's meeting.

Plant list: Noah said he will get draft native plant list from todd and work on it. Laurie offered to assist.

Kempton Fair June 16-19: EAC members discussed whether we should have a table at the fair or not. Table does not need to be manned. Bracken said not a lot handouts taken but worth doing. Tom and Laurie said they can assist with set up or take down, Bracken may be busy this week eaching a class. It was suggested we could display some of the maps. Laurie suggested we might implement a resident survey at the table.

EAC adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Submitted by,

Laurie Goodrich

EAC Secretary