

ALBANY TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Kempton Fire Company Social Hall

2461 Route 143, Kempton, Pennsylvania

Monday January 3, 2022, 7:30 p.m.

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

Secretary's Report: Minutes of December 2021 approved unanimously. Randy asked about number of members on EAC and if we would need to change bylaws to add members. Tom said we would need to seek Supervisor's approval to add new members.

Pubic Forum:

Act 537 progress: None. Jeff reviewed topic for new members.

Recommended Plant list for Township website: Todd has not reported recently. Laurie suggested Noah could ask if Todd would like his help to finish plant list for Albany website. (Should also add link to Audubon search tool).

AT Maps: Laurie will meet with Bracken to see how we can get revised maps printed.

No mow Areas: Marking of no mow areas before spring mowing but after snow plowing season. Randy mentioned that Bracken volunteered to communicate with landowners, but we need to research when it is best to mow for the plants in question as blooming at different times. Jeff suggested stake marking could be color coded, for early or late mowing. Each landowner would need to take charge of marking but EAC needs to give info on the plants and where to place stakes. Laurie will speak to Bracken to see if we can move this forward.

Social media update: no news. next item to promote would be the talk in January. (rescheduled to March after meeting).

Albany Township Film: The film focus is to be virtual tour of township and highlighting environmental best practices for landowners and farmers, and township scenic beauty. Noah said he can help out with film editing as he has all the software etc. Film link could be online but also shown at a program perhaps. Laurie will try to relocate ideas and outline of the film. Noah, Todd, Jeff can lead on fleshing out an outline for film. For costs, we will have a budget of \$1000 for 2022 allotted by Supervisors.

Solar: At the Planning Commission last month they discussed ordinance for solar. Anita reported there has not been much progress but it was on agenda as topic tonight. Randy said he would be attending Planning Commission meeting tonight.

Restoration Area Tour: To be put on schedule for spring.

Programs in 2022:

January program set for 1/25 with PA Game Commission foresters, Curtis Noll and J. Weaver, to talk about management of 106. Laurie has been in touch and they will have 30 min powerpoint. Bracken will help with set up of projector, etc. Noah volunteered to assist and bring extension cord. Tom will give Jeff a paragraph to give speakers introduction. We should try to meet up at Fire Co. at 6:15 to set up.

Other programs: Laurie said she needs to follow up on the family forest carbon program with TNC and see if they can he speak in May. We had discussed having Bracken present on farmland raptors in March. Jeff will confirm the talk and get a title. Tom will check on building availability. (NOTE: it was decided to delay Jan. program due to COVID outbreak in January; it will be held late March instead). This will require rescheduling Bracken talk.

Albany Park signage: Todd and Chris S. had spoken about this before December. Todd had suggested we could get a small grant to pay for improvements or signage in the park, such as importance of natural areas, wetlands etc. possible butterfly garden. Laurie said she would inquire about the Kittatinny Coalition small grants program and timing for applications. Jeff asked what kind of paperwork would be involved with grant monitoring and application. Laurie said it is not too bad for this one. She can get that information as well for EAC to consider.

Membership in EAC: Jeff and Tom will attend Supervisor's meeting to recommend the 2022 members. Tom said currently we can have eight people on EAC. To change bylaws to add members, we need to send around edits then we can vote at meeting. With a majority vote of EAC members to recommend change we then bring suggested change to the Supervisors. Randy made motion to change Albany EAC bylaws to increase membership of EAC to seven to nine members, all voted in favor. Tom will report on this suggested change to Supervisors.

Volunteer Corp for Albany: Chris Schucker suggested this could be a good idea for all Albany groups and suggested EAC spearhead the effort. Could be promoted on social media, but unclear who is in charge and organizing the list or projects. EAC could offer to promote it.

New Business: Jeff is nominated as Chair for 2022 with Bracken as Vice Chair and Laurie as Secretary for 2022. Terms will be for one year. Slate approved unanimously and will be presented to Supervisors.

EAC adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Submitted by,

Laurie Goodrich

EAC Secretary