

ALBANY TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Kempton Fire Company Social Hall

2461 Route 143, Kempton, Pennsylvania

Tuesday January 3, 2023

7:30 pm

Attending: Randy Hensinger, Tom Kerr, Bracken Brown, Laurie Goodrich, Anita Zawada.

Absent: Jeff Schucker, Stephanie Stoudt, Noah Rauch. Bracken Brown chaired the meeting.

Secretary's Report: Minutes for December 2022 circulated by email. Minutes approved unanimously.

Public Forum

Public Programs

December program at Hawk Mountain: Talk was well attended by twenty-eight people and the committee thought it was an interesting and relevant program. Larry did a great talk on basics of easements. Randy and Laurie commented that several people spoke to Larry afterwards.

Current Activities

Weed Ordinance and natives list. Laurie and Randy reviewed list. Decision made to finish this up and get it posted in next two months. Bracken said it should be ready to go as we decided at last meeting to post the links instead of an actual list. Decision to ask Noah to email draft ahead of time to group then Jeff or someone can present last version at February meeting of supervisors. Bracken, Laurie, and Noah will review final questions and Noah can get final draft done. Tom recommended formatting it the same as the other conservation document.

Nesting Grassland birds on Albany Park: Bracken and Laurie will look at park maps with Noah to map out proposed area of no-mowing for grassland birds and wildlife. We should bring the map to the February meeting and try to broach idea with parks committee.

Township Video: Noah had distributed an outline at December meeting, but more work is needed. Not clear how others can assist.

EAC public talks. Committee then discussed programs for 2023 to create a calendar of talks. Noah will give talk on forest management and invasive plant control April 25 or May 2nd; we need to confirm with him.

Geology talk: Randy contacted KU professor, Dr. Simpson. He prefers to present in March rather than April. We selected March 21 or 28 and Randy will confirm with Dr. Simpson. The talk would be at 7 pm and focus will be on Albany geology and paleontology. Randy suggested we could promote to schools.

After May, in June is the fair where we typically set up a table. Bracken suggested in Sept. we ask Mike Rowley to present on the tick study and he will contact him for dates.

Bracken also reported he is hosting a visitor, Vince Slabe, a researcher on non-lead ammunition and impact of lead on eagles. Everyone thought this could be a good talk for the EAC. He is presenting a fall lecture at Hawk Mountain but could do second talk for residents. Bracken will ask him if this is possible.

Old Business

Forest land-owner mailing: Tom is going to talk to someone from the Family Carbon program in the next week to see if they would fund a mailing to landowners in township. We have the spreadsheet by property size from the Natural Lands Trust work. People guessed there could be five hundred people with enough forest acres.

Social media update: Bracken said it has been quiet. He changed the Facebook Profile picture. But would welcome more photos sent to him. Committee discussed the idea to work on is to take photos of township and have people identify the location, i.e., post a photo and say do you know where this is? all thought this could bring more people to page.

New Business

None presented.

Submitted by,

Albany EAC Secretary