

ALBANY TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Kempton Fire Company Social Hall

2461 Route 143, Kempton, Pennsylvania

Monday June 6, 2022, 7:37 p.m.

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

Secretary's Report: Minutes from May 2nd reviewed and accepted unanimously.

Public Forum

Public Programs

Bracken gave a great program on kestrels in May with 45 attendees.

Kempton Fair is scheduled June 16 to 18—Jeff, Bracken and Tom will set it up and bring flyers.

Family Forest program September 13th, 7 pm. Laurie will contact speaker to get her title, bio, needs.

November 15th we will have reception for township residents at Hawk Mountain. Live birds and program by Berks Nature on easement opportunities for Kittatinny Ridge residents.

Other: Jeff talked to Julie Coats about a program on spotted lanternfly and the group decided it might be best to schedule for next year and get you tube link to video which we can share on Facebook for now. Jeff said he would look for that.

Current Activities

Virtual Albany Tour. Noah said he was very busy and also was challenged by farmers not wanting visitors due to avian flu. Noah suggested he could work on a short trailer teaser for the film that we can share that might last one minute. Then he and Todd could work on final video over next winter. Good news is the HM drone has been returned allowing more panoramic work.

No-Mow program. Promoted at May program but none have signed up. It was suggested we set up a model no mow area so people see how it works and why impt. Jeff will ask township about a model area at township park perhaps. Hawk Mountain?

Albany Volunteer Corp. Jeff will ask Supervisors if they have arranged coverage so we can begin working on this.

Weed Ordinance. Document was downloaded and circulated. Noah brought a copy. A discussion ensued as to the process for making edits. Should we change wording or make edits and bring up to current code. Noah said we must define 'noxious weed' or update it to current thinking. Laurie suggested we can just use DCNR list and definition. We also should look for

model for weed ordinance from conserveland.org. Tom will check that site and Noah and Laurie will search other sources.

Native plant list update. Noah is working on list formatting. Format right now is excel spreadsheet. Eventual goal is documents for website.

Approved minutes. Jeff asked for copies of approved minutes to share to Supervisors from all 2022 meetings. Laurie said she would send them promptly.

Albany Community Park

Jeff, Noah, Todd worked with Steve Hamm and others and got trees planted. Jeff asked what possibilities are there for funding, small grants for future park work. Tom mentioned the Tomorrow Fund which has a March application date. We could work on a grant outline together with recreation group. A priority for the Park is invasive removal, and Jeff suggested we have a work day on invasive removal. **Workday for EAC members scheduled for July 20 at 730 pm. Meet at the Park, bring gloves and wear work clothes. Bring a friend!**

New Business

Letter for support of Larry Lloyd nomination for Natural Areas Association award was circulated. the EAC reviewed the draft letter provided by Laurie in support of nomination. Approved unanimously and Jeff signed. UPDATE: Berks Nature asked us to table this nomination until next year when they can do more to plan a reception for him and do some preparation. Laurie agreed so we will revisit in March 2023. Please be quiet on this as he does not know we are making a nomination.

Tom circulated information on a study by Temple University on well water and children's health. They are seeking participants for study but must live on property with private well water. It was suggested we post on Facebook or township website. Families get free UV filtering system installed for their participation. Jeff will discuss with Township Supervisors.

July Meeting. It was suggested we skip July meeting. Jeff will ask about Supervisors if that is okay. We will still have workday.

EAC adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Submitted by,

Laurie Goodrich

EAC Secretary

Approved July2022