

# Upper Makefield *Township*

## *Environmental Advisory Council Meeting*

*July 8, 2014*

The July 8, 2014 public meeting of the Upper Makefield Township Environmental Advisory Council was called to order by Chair Ed Ford at 6:40 p.m. In attendance were the following members of the Environmental Advisory Council: Chair Ed Ford, Vice-Chair Cathy Magliocchetti, Member Bud Baldwin, Member Kyle Dudley, Member Keith Miller, Planning & Zoning Department, Wendy Mecke, and Supervisor, Larry Breedon.

**I. Call to Order - 6:40 p.m.**

**II. Public Comment**-No public comment

**III. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

A. May 13, 2014 and June 10, 2014 .

Motion made and second to approve meeting minutes.

**IV. Discussion Item.**

A. Falkenstein Riparian Grant Application.

Jeremiah Bergstrom, Cleer Engineering and Mr. & Mrs. Karl Falkenstein. 303 Stoneybrook Road were present to review the strategy being taken for the property with the EAC. Mr. Bergstrom summarizes the property issue that the erosion problem stems from the adjacent property (Jericho National Golf Course) and that property owner has been spoken to in that regard. Being the nature of the Riparian Grant Fund, property owners within the 200' of the creek are eligible for funding to restore erosion. The issue causing the erosion on the Falkenstein's property is not on the Falkensteins' property, it is on the golf course property. Mr. Bergstrom asks the EAC how to move forward with this project. His understanding previous ideas and suggestions have been made. Mrs. Falkenstein states the creek is officially eroded onto their property. For administrative purposes, Mr. Bergstrom reviews the Riparian Grant application submitted in April 2014 submitted by the Falkenstein's. Which was not complete. It contained the application and letter from Pickering, Corts and Summerson quoting a pylon design costing between \$8,000.00-\$18,000.00. Ms. Magliocchetti asked about the schematic created by Gilmore & Associates, of the work being done on the adjacent property. Mr. Bergstrom confirmed he heard of it, and has not seen it. A survey by Gilmore & Associates was circulated around the table. Mrs. Falkenstein clarified that all the work is to be done on their property. The erosion is too bad to wait for the adjacent property owner. The original proposal had rip-rap on the adjacent property. Now they are considering installing sheet piling on their property down 15' or more to create a wall to stop erosion. Ms. Magliocchetti stated that the piling was never before the EAC. Mr. Bergstrom asks for options from the EAC. Dr. Ford offers that (Supervisor) Mr. Tierney was before the EAC at a previous meeting stating the he had someone who was going to design a system for erosion control and was going to talk to the Jericho National Golf Course with respect to gaining access to the property then report back to the EAC. The EAC is waiting to hear from Mr. Tierney. This

plays into this because it needs to be an unanimous vote by the Supervisors. Mr. Bergstrom is fact finding and making contacts at this time to evaluate whether to continue with this Riparian Grant application. Mr. Baldwin confirms that the damage to the Falkensteins' property over the years is catastrophic, with the work being performed on their property, there should be no problem moving forward with this application. Ms. Magliocchetti suggests that an overall solution with a stream study and the adjacent property participation might be a better solution to the erosion. Mrs. Falkenstein emotionally spoke to the EAC regarding time spent waiting for action, the construction of the golf course and the damage to their property. Mr. Dudley asked Mr. Bergstrom his title and qualifications. Mr. Bergstrom stated he is a landscape architect. He specializes in engineering solutions that involve stone and living materials. Mr. Dudley brings up that one of the solutions suggested to this particular issue would be bringing in large boulders, he asks Mr. Bergstrom if this seemed like a solution. Mr. Bergstrom offered it would have to be a very large system, looking at the stream in total, including the adjacent property consent. This would not be an option for the Falkenstein's property, the property is too small. Perhaps sheet pilings on the edge of their property, the property would erode up to the bulkhead and deflect back. Mrs. Falkenstein is in fear the house will be condemned. Ms. Magliocchetti wonders what the effects the pilings would have downstream. Mr. Bergstrom reminds everyone that that creeks and streams are mobile systems, they change and move though the course of years and decades. Everything that is done to them will always have an impact. The best solutions are the ones that have the least impact (to the streams) and protect the properties and plan for future changes. Moving forward Mr. Bergstrom suggests provide a feasibility study from a contractor and engineer with a cost to provide to the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Bergstrom will also reach out to Pickering, Corts and Summerson who designed the initial proposal in April. Ms. Magliocchetti informed Mr. Bergstrom of the amended Riparian Grant procedures which are available online. Ms. Mecke offered to email them to Mr. Bergstrom. Mr. Bergstrom offers to reach out to Mr. Tierney. Mr. Bergstrom tells the EAC there will be a report at the next EAC meeting.

#### B. River Road Storm Water.

Ms. Magliocchetti reports to the EAC the Growing Greener Grant DEP application. Without a request for proposal (RFP) of a stream study in hand it is difficult to provide the information this grant is requesting. Done in two phases, the initial study is a professional who would do the scope of work for an RFP. To define the study and get proposals, then the study (phase two). Ms. Magliocchetti continues to explain the methods of applying for the grant. The first is for 2014 is to request \$800.00 for the RFP, pick a number for a stream study. Then that total number would be the amount received for the grant. Or approach the Board of Supervisors for and RFP not to exceed \$800.00 and in 2015 an actual researched dollar amount to ask in grant money. Also the possibility with proposals for stream studies in hand. Mr. Dudley asks if both are an option. Ms. Magliocchetti explains with her grant experience its' usually better to choose one. The EAC discuss the logistics of an actual stream study if granted the money. Ms. Magliocchetti brought up the possibility of including retention/detention basins in the study. Then once a study is acquired it will give you areas of concentration to work on for priority and erosion. Ms. Magliocchetti discusses using staff time in dollar amount making up for the match amount. She does not believe the Board would be agreeable to any actual dollar being given to the match amount. The application is due July 11, 2014. Mr. Breeded asks if this is normally something that would need to go before the Board? Ms. Magliocchetti explained because there was no monetary commitment from the Township there isn't necessarily a need to go before the Township to have it approved or apply for it. It was clarified that the application fee would be generated by "in-kind" funds from staff working on the application. The EAC all agreed the move the application to 2015.

## **V. Liaison's Report**

A. Park and Rec.: Cathy Magliocchetti

Public Works have approval to address some drainage issues at Lookout Park, they will shortly be installing a French drain.

B. Planning & Zoning: Wendy Mecke

Ms. Mecke announces a joint Board of Supervisors/ EAC meeting to be held on August 5, 2014 to discuss the Riparian Grant applications that are ready. The EAC agrees that the Edelson application is ready for a vote.

## **VI. Adjournment-7:35pm**

*Next meeting – Tuesday, August 12, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.*

*Approved at the August 12, 2014 meeting.*