

Upper Makefield *Township*

Environmental Advisory Council Meeting

March 13, 2018 Meeting Minutes

The March 13, 2018 public meeting of the Upper Makefield Township Environmental Advisory Council was called to order by Vice Chair Nicole Khan at 7:05 p.m. In attendance were the following members of the Environmental Advisory Council: Vice-Chair Nicole Khan, Member Cathy Magliocchetti, Member Keith Miller, Member Kyle Dudley, Member Jack Wiseman, and Member Tim Thomas. Chair Bud Baldwin was not present. Also, in attendance were Supervisor Liaison Diana Nolan, Planning & Zoning Director Dave Kuhns and Staff Member Debra McFadden.

Confirmation of a Quorum was affirmed by Vice Chair Nicole Khan.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

New Business

Dave Kuhns introduced the new EAC member, Tim Thomas.

Approval of Meeting Minutes, January 9, 2018

A motion was made by Mr. Wiseman to approve the January 9, 2018 EAC meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dudley. Motion carried a unanimous vote with Mr. Thomas abstaining.

Approval of Meeting Minutes, February 13, 2018

A motion was made by Mr. Dudley to approve the February 13, 2018 EAC meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Miller. Motion carried a unanimous vote with Mr. Thomas abstaining.

Schwartz Revised Subdivision Plan, 1070 Eagle Rd

Mr. Kuhns explained the history of the Schwartz properties submittal three years ago that was recently revised. The first plan consisted of three residential lots, plus the existing home; the revised plan has two residential lots, plus the existing home. Mr. Kuhns reported that the new plan is staying out of the stream corridor and will have a conservation easement. There will be four residents in total which is part of future plan. Ms. Magliocchetti asked where the future sand mound sites for septic and the wells are located on the plan. Ms. Magliocchetti asked why the sand mound are so close to the riparian edges. Since the riparian area erodes over time it would make sense to move the sand mound further away from the creek. Ms. Khan asked if there could be an immediate rearrangement of the sand mounds as far away from the stream as possible. Mr. Wiseman clarified the recommendations and the strong importance of the first recommendation.

The EAC's first recommendation to the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors is for the Schwartz Revised Subdivision Plan to ask for the rearrangement of the septic mound as far away as possible from the stream. The EAC's second recommendation is to plant more trees next to the property line adjoining the Township and to provide written documentation in the Subdivision approval to insure the planting of the trees.

Discussion Items

Land Studies Watershed Restoration Planning, Contractor Proposal, continued from the February 13, 2018 EAC meeting

Ms. Magliocchetti reported that the Board of Supervisors approved the Grant with the use of the Riparian Fund. Ms. Magliocchetti suggested to Dave Nyman after the last EAC meeting to inform LandStudies about the work that the Township Engineers are doing with the Pollution Reduction plan. DEP designated some of the streams in the Township as impaired. This will be useful to them as they put together a restoration plan. LandStudies has reached out to Wes Plaisted of Tri State Engineers. Ms. Magliocchetti explained that she has been working with the Stroud Water Research Center and there is potential to combine the Watershed Plan with some monitoring in the Township, pre and post project. She suggested to get monitoring in the streams and the headwaters and at the end of the streams to see when we start to do some of these BMP's the results from the money that we are spending. Ms. Magliocchetti explained that in the Delaware Watershed the William Penn Foundation has been funding many projects in the different clusters along the Delaware, however, Upper Makefield is not in the cluster and that is why the last screen application was rejected. Ms. Magliocchetti has been in contact with the William Penn Foundation and they are intrigued by the Riparian Fund. Ms. Magliocchetti said that the monitoring equipment price has dropped from \$1,500.00 to \$250.00 for one unit. At a minimum, the Jericho and Houghs Creek Watershed Plan would have four units at \$250.00, two units at the head and two at the bottom. Ms. Nolan questioned whether LandStudies would be doing this monitoring. Much discussion followed regarding the Watershed Plan associated with Upper Makefield and the background of the plan. Ms. Magliocchetti explained that LandStudies is aware of the work going on in the Delaware River Watershed and the equipment that Stroud has available. Stroud is a non-profit and the equipment is not for retail sale but is distributed by the William Penn Foundation. Ms. Nolan asked if the EAC would have to apply for another grant for this equipment. Ms. Magliocchetti said since the cost of the units have dropped in price, the EAC could purchase the basic monitors. Ms. Magliocchetti said that to give us some credibility with the William Penn Foundation down the road, if the EAC were to purchase a couple monitors now, capable of collecting data and maintaining these sensors over the long term, the William Penn Foundation might fund more appropriate sensor technologies. Mr. Dudley said the EAC has a budget that would cover the cost of the basic monitors. Ms. Nolan questioned whether LandStudies was supposed to do this monitoring. Ms. Magliocchetti said that LandStudies would do it but there would be a charge. Mr. Dudley asked who would be responsible for collecting the data. Ms. Khan's recommendation was that the EAC take responsibility of managing the devices. Ms. Magliocchetti stated that there are already devices in place along the Delaware River. Ms. Magliocchetti's concerns are budget and site placement. Mr. Wiseman suggested that LandStudies give a presentation to the EAC on the monitoring device and recommendations. Mr. Miller asked if any of the Township easements would allow us to monitor the devices. Mr. Kuhns that should not be an issue. LandStudies is contacting Wes Plaisted from Tri State Engineers and will arrange a meeting with the EAC. More discussion to follow.

Earth Day 2018

Ms. Khan showed the EAC members two different Earth Day bags for a vote to be distributed at the Earth Day event at Core Creek Park on Saturday, April 28, 2018. Ms. Khan can purchase 500 bags for .90 cents a bag with the logo of Upper Makefield Township printed without a date, shipping and 15% off from Discount Mugs for \$500.00. The bag that was decided on by the EAC was the bag with the picture of the tree. Ms. Khan explained the idea of the reusable bag is important not to use plastic. Ms. McFadden informed the EAC that the Earth Day flyer was emailed today from Middletown Township and that a Public Works crew member will be available the day of the event.

Liaison Report

Board of Supervisors: Diana Nolan

Ms. Nolan reported that there will be a meeting on Thursday, April 19, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Township building regarding addiction and the opioid crisis. Dr. Joseph Campbell, Bucks County Coroner will speak about the scope of the opioid epidemic in Bucks County, Diana Rosati, Executive Director, Bucks County Drug and Alcohol Commission, Inc. will speak about what resources are available in Bucks County; and Dave Fialko, the Council of Southeast Pennsylvania, will discuss the signs and symptoms of addiction and how to use Narcan. Bucks County residents who participate in the training will receive one free dose of Narcan per household. Ms. Nolan is working on a flyer to be distributed and will post on the website and TV channel. Ms. Nolan mentioned the Grant approval and congratulated the EAC.

Park & Recreation: Cathy Magliocchetti

Ms. Magliocchetti reported that the Park & Recreation Board did not meet for lack of agenda in March. Ms. Magliocchetti would like the EAC, Park and Recreation Board, and Public Works to walk the "No Mow" areas one afternoon at the end of the month. Ms. Magliocchetti distributed brochures regarding the Emerald Ash Borer. Ms. Magliocchetti advised that currently there is a fracking ban in the Delaware River Basin but there is a proposal to lift the moratorium on the fracking ban. It effects Upper Makefield because we live in the watershed. If anyone is interested the DRBC are taking comments now and Ms. Magliocchetti had flyers to distribute.

Planning & Zoning: Debra McFadden

Ms. McFadden asked the EAC if the UM Tree Grant will continue for 2018. Ms. McFadden reported the UM Tree Grants issued for the following years: In 2017- 3 rebates, 2016 - 4 rebates, 2015 - 5 rebates, 2014 - 4 rebates, and in 2013 -10 rebates.

Ms. Khan made the recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to continue the UM Tree Grant Program for residents. The program will include reimbursement to property owners at a maximum of \$300.00. First motion was made by Ms. Magliocchetti and seconded by Mr. Wiseman. Motion carried a 6 - 0 vote.

Ms. Khan made the motion for the EAC to reaffirm their recommendation to move forward with a Conservation Easement on Property "G". First motion was made by Mr. Wiseman and seconded by Mr. Dudley. Motion carried a to 6 - 0 vote.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Khan and seconded by Mr. Wiseman to adjourn the meeting by at 8:40 p.m. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra McFadden

Approved: April 10, 2018