

Upper Makefield *Township*

Environmental Advisory Council Meeting

February 8, 2022 Meeting Minutes

The February 8, 2022 public meeting of the Upper Makefield Township Environmental Advisory Council was called to order by Vice Chair Keith Miller at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were the following members of the Environmental Advisory Council: Vice Chair Keith Miller, Member Harry Barfoot, Member Kathryn Benson, Member Cathy Magliocchetti, and Member Jack Wiseman. Also in attendance were resident Denise Pancari, Board of Supervisors Chair Tom Cino, and Planning & Zoning Administrator Terry Barker.

Confirmation of Quorum: Mr. Miller confirmed a quorum.

Public Comment: None

2022 Reorganization: Based on the absence of Mr. Baldwin and other members of the EAC, Mr. Barfoot made a motion to postpone reorganization to the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Magliocchetti and carried by a unanimous vote.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

A. December 4, 2021 (1312 River Road)

B. December 14, 2021

A motion was made by Ms. Magliocchetti and seconded by Mr. Barfoot to approve both meeting minutes with no amendments. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Discussion Items:

A. Tree Grant Native Tree List:

Ms. Pancari voiced several concerns regarding the current Native Tree List being used by the Township for reimbursement:

- The Tree Grant recently denied reimbursement of her “native” trees.
- The native tree list being used is very narrow and not completely accurate.
- She suggests that a new list should be made to replace the existing Township list.
- She volunteered to do the necessary research and put together a new list for review.
- Many links to native trees on the Township website are not working.

Discussion continued among the EAC Members, Ms. Pancari, and Mr. Cino. All agreed that the definition of “native trees” needs clarification and that a new list must be created or referenced that would serve as a guide for residents when planting and as a resource for the Township Staff in determining reimbursement.

A motion was made by Ms. Benson and seconded by Mr. Wiseman that the EAC will create a new native tree list. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Another motion was made by Mr. Barfoot and seconded by Mr. Wiseman that Ms. Pancari will do the necessary research and work with EAC Member Ms. Benson to create the new list. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

B. Bridlewood Farms / Stormwater:

Mr. Benson clarified that the site review was already scheduled twice but cancelled both times due to weather. A new date has not been set.

Mr. Cino stated there are some on-going issues concerning Bridlewood:

- Legal responsibility still needs to be determined.
- Discussions and reviews are needed between the Township Engineer and EAC representative Ms. Benson. Ms. Benson summarized the discussion so far and stated that it needs to be determined whether this is considered restoration or preservation.
- The EAC should provide a solution and propose to the Board. If there's a way to solve the entire problem, it's probably worth using the monies in the fund.
- Removing the pipes downstream still needs resolution. If the HOA is found to be responsible, the cost may be too much and not financially realistic for them.
- For the EAC to move forward with proposing a resolution, the Board would need to authorize whether the EAC can survey the current property owners and whether the EAC can subsequently enlist Land Studies.

Ms. Barker will check the following open items and report to the EAC:

- Bridlewood Plans – available for review?
- Riparian Grant Fund – current balance?
- HOA Legal Documents – available for review?

C. McHale/Gill – Jericho Creek – 1312 River Road – Riparian Grant

Site review is still pending. Previously scheduled dates have been cancelled due to weather. Bridlewood HOA responsibility needs to be clarified as it affects this application.

D. Holly Pond Farm – Inspection:

EAC has already walked Holly Ponds twice. Possible dates for the next visit need to be determined. Mr. Cino gave a brief update:

- This has gone before a Judge and the Township is responsible to determine whether the items of the settlement are met.
- The BOS has requested that the EAC take care of the necessary reviews.
- A checklist of items needs to be compiled based on the Judge's requirements.

Mr. Barfoot offered to make a list of specifics for the EAC to verify at their next site visit.

The Township Staff needs to organize and provide possible dates for the next walk through.

Liaison Reports:

A. Board of Supervisors – Tom Cino:

- Focus needs to be on the Riparian issues and getting Holly Ponds in order.
- The Township Manager will coordinate additional discussions regarding the conservation easement at the River Road property.
- Dr. Ford is still the BOS Liaison to the EAC but could not attend this meeting.

B. Planning and Zoning – Terry Barker:

- CRS (Community Rating System) recertification has officially been submitted.
- Denise Burmester has been appointed as the new Zoning Officer.
- The P&Z Department is very busy with the volume of new applications coming in.
- Mailing of Realtor Letters is the next priority.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Ms. Benson and seconded by Ms. Magliocchetti to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Approved: May 10, 2022