

# Upper Makefield *Township*

## Environmental Advisory Council

### Tuesday, June 14, 2022 Meeting Minutes

The June 14, 2022 public meeting of the Upper Makefield Township Environmental Advisory Council was called to order by Chair Kathryn Benson at 7:03 p.m. In attendance were the following members of the Environmental Advisory Council: Chair Kathryn Benson, Vice Chair Harry Barfoot, Member Bud Baldwin, Member Keith Miller, Member Cathy Magliocchetti, Member Nicole Khan, and Member Jack Wiseman. Also in attendance were Township Supervisor Tim Thomas, Township Supervisor Dr. Ed Ford, and Planning & Zoning Director Denise Burmester.

#### **Public Comment:**

- Kevin Holmes, resident of 476 Stoneybrook Road, spoke regarding the impact of Storm Ida on his property. He stated that there is a known log jam in a property above his that impacts the storm issues. Members confirmed they are presently taking actions to correct this problem.
- Tim Thomas, Supervisor and resident of 134 Glenwood Drive, spoke regarding Jericho Creek and concerns from neighbor Hank Lieberman. It was confirmed that his property is in the area currently under consideration for the LandStudies work.

Mr. Thomas also spoke to the Township Property in the Mt. Eyre neighborhood, recommending the property should be turned into a forest to assist with stormwater issues impacting 5 to 6 properties in the neighborhood. Members recommended the formation of a subcommittee consisting of Parks and Rec and EAC to work on the use of the property.

- Dr. Ford, Supervisor and resident of 995 Washington Crossing Road, also spoke to the Township Property in the Mt. Eyre neighborhood, recommending communication with neighbors on the use of the property. Dr. Ford supports putting in a forest and also including walking trails.

**Confirmation of a Quorum:** Ms. Benson confirmed a quorum.

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

**May 10, 2022**

A motion was made by Mr. Baldwin and seconded by Mr. Wiseman to approve the May 10, 2022 meeting minutes. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

#### **Discussion Items:**

##### **LandStudies Proposal, Emily West**

Ms. Benson gave an overview of the LandStudies response to the EAC request for proposal for the Jericho Creek restoration efforts. The LandStudies response included an area termed the “Blue Area” to include work on the creek from Brownsburg Road downstream. Ms. Benson also spoke to fee information provided.

Discussion followed with the following topics:

- Resident communication to determine which property owners in the “Blue Area” are interested in working with the Township for riparian restoration. EAC members will prioritize discussions with the neighbors on Stoneybrook Road and Taylorsville Road residing below London Court and River Road, as well as some of the larger properties upstream.
- Funding sources may include the Township Riparian Grant fund, State and Federal grants. Discussion on use of other Township funds, to include the Open Space fund, but recognition that the Open Space funds were not granted for the riparian repair activities on private property.
- Riparian restoration solutions were discussed to include ensuring the properties in the “Blue Area” are included in the PennState live staking project in March and April 2023.

### **Bridlewood Farms Stormwater**

Ms. Burmester provided an overview of the meeting with the HOA and the Township Engineer. The HOA members fully understood the situation with the storm water and the erosion that has occurred. The HOA does want to understand the riparian restoration efforts and how these efforts may impact their restoration efforts. EAC members noted that riparian efforts should not be a preempt to the HOA repairing the Bridlewood storm water outlet, as it is unsafe and needs to be addressed as per the maintenance agreement. EAC members agreed that they have made their recommendations via motions in prior meetings and additional action will be at the direction of the Board of Supervisors.

### **McHale/Gill – Jericho Creek – 1312 River Road – Riparian Grant**

Ms. Benson provided an overview of the status. She confirmed they have submitted an application, and Ms. Burmester will continue conversation with them regarding this. No additional recent information has been obtained at present. Conversation has been tabled for now.

### **Chair Report:**

#### **EAC Chair – Kathryn Benson**

Ms. Benson provided EAC status on the following topics:

- Mt. Eyre Township Property Project:  
Members Nicole Khan and Cathy Magliocchetti volunteered to work on a sub committee with Park and Rec committee members.
- Bowman Deer Management Program:  
The agreement has been renewed and they are working with the Big Oak White Tail Association to get the word out to residents.
- David Library Property:  
DCNR has not indicated their plans for the property as of yet.

- **Heritage Conservancy:**  
Requested a review to ensure the Township received easement monitoring reports for the properties reviewed in the past three years.
- **Student Volunteer Coordinator:**  
The Township is always willing to work with a student for volunteer efforts. These volunteer efforts are initiated by a student, usually through the school or organization the student is representing.

**Liaison Reports:**

**Board of Supervisors – Dr. Ed Ford**

Dr. Ford provided Board of Supervisor status on the following topics:

- Sunoco Pipeline conditional use was approved with conditions.
- The Board of Supervisors is currently taking a neutral position on Zoning Hearing Board variance applications for pools building on floodplain soils, leaving the decision up to the Zoning Hearing Board.

**Planning and Zoning – Denise Burmester**

Ms. Burmester provided Planning and Zoning status on the following topics:

- The Township is working with residents on Stoneybrook Road and River Road with their requests for State and Federal grant opportunities for flood remediation.
- The Township is working with the residents on Stoneybrook Road and Taylorsville Road impacted by the Ida flooding. Township engineering, zoning and emergency management personnel have all met with the residents and continue to work with them on their concerns.
- The Township has seen an increase in the number of residents with stormwater management concerns throughout the Township.

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Mr. Baldwin and seconded by Mr. Barfoot to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 p.m. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

**Approved:** August 9, 2022