

## **Upper Makefield Environmental Advisory Council**

### **August 12, 2025 Meeting Minutes**

The August 12, 2025 public meeting of the Upper Makefield Township Environmental Advisory Council was called to order by Chair Cathy Magliocchetti at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were the following members of the Environmental Advisory Council: Cathy Magliocchetti, Eddie Hale, Bud Baldwin, Carolyn Dorph, Ellen Radow, Elizabeth Thompson and Elizabeth Ferrante. Also in attendance were Township Supervisor Liaison Ben Weldon, New Township Manager Gregg Schuster and Planning & Zoning Officer Denise Burmester.

#### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

#### **CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM**

Chair Cathy Magliocchetti confirmed a quorum.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mr. Baldwin and seconded by Ms. Radow to approve the April 8, 2025 meeting minutes. Ms. Ferrante abstained. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

#### **RIPARIAN GRANT APPLICATION – 11 & 19 AQUEDUCT RD – H&H STUDY REPORT**

Jeremy Lowe provided an overview of the applications and requested help in getting a Riparian Grant approval.

Discussion followed with the following topics:

- Mr. Lowe expressed his frustration and disappointment with the process in moving forward with the Riparian Grant application. Mr. Lowe explained his Engineers had modeled a flat bottom bridge opposed to the “culvert” suggested in H&H study. He was looking at a model to have the flow of water to “go past” his property and the study was not based on what was presented. Mr. Lowe presented his interpretation of the study, showing no net change in the water flow.
- Andrew Schanck from Gilmore gave explanation of the interpretation of the H&H Report. He summarized the report followed by the explanation based on the information received from Dumack Engineers.
- The emphasis on upstream property owners was discussed. Mr. Lowe recommended that the HOAs should be contacted to upgrade their basins.
- Suggestion from EAC is that the applicants, Mr. & Mrs. Lowe, Mr. Young and Ms. Hitchner make public comment at the Board of Supervisors meeting.

#### **BUCKS BEAUTIFUL – REPORT FROM COMMITTEE**

Ms. Dorph provided an overview of the program. Discussion followed with the following topics:

- May 21, 2025 the application was submitted to the program. The response should be sometime in September, and the planting will be in October. The bulbs are planted by machine, but the area will be walked by Bucks Beautiful and the EAC to identify areas to be planted. Ms. Dorph will let the EAC know the dates for this.

### **COMMUNITY DAY 2025 - UPDATE**

Ms. Thompson provided an overview of the updates. Discussion followed with the following topics:

- Discussion about supplies needed, where to be located and the “google” form for the trees.
- Ms. Dorph is able to obtain a table from the Penn State Master Water Shed Program simulating a fuel spill.
- Tables for the set-up, Crisco, bird seed and pinecones. Also need to bring the banner.
- Beech Tree disease handout and native plants list to be provided by the EAC.
- Tours of the Butterfly Garden (Suggestion is for Season’s Nursery to do the tours.)
- Open Space map to be available.
- Ms. Dorph stated there will be 225 trees (from PA Power and Light Co.) to be delivered on September 20<sup>th</sup> and pick-up can be set for October 22<sup>nd</sup> thru November 1<sup>st</sup>. Township Public Works will tend to them until pickup day.
- High school volunteers were suggested.
- Ms. Dorph, Mr. Hale, Ms. Thompson, and Mr. Baldwin committed to attending the event.

### **TOWNSHIP TREE PLANTING PLAN – PLANNING DISCUSSION**

Ms. Magliochetti provided an overview of the Plan. Discussion followed with the following topics:

- EAC to do direct reach out to HOA’s such as River Crossing.
- Sign-up sheets will be available at Community Day.
- Conversation regarding Brownsburg Park and replacing 3 shade trees that are dead on the southern side.
- Discussed Adding information regarding the tree planting in the Township Newsletter.

### **SALTING PRACTICES – REPORT FROM COMMITTEE**

Ms. Magliochetti provided an overview of the salting practices of the Township. Discussion followed with the following topics:

- Safety first. Concern for the salt concentration in our waters, as in the study they ranked high.
- Discussion was had with the Public Works Director and the Interim Township Manager. They discussed the possibility of using brine, however Public Works was not a fan due to washing away quickly and causing car damage.
- Public Works offered EAC members to ride along with them when salting the roads.
- It was noted that on PennDOT roads, there appears to be piles of salt. This should be reported directly to PennDOT.

### **BUDGET REQUEST FOR 2026**

Ms. Magliochetti provided an overview of the 2025 budget of \$5000.00 and suggested a 2026 budget of \$7,500.00.

A motion was made by Mr. Baldwin and seconded by Mr. Hale to recommend the increase from \$5000.00 to \$7500.00 in the budget for plantings and opportunities for inclement weather.

Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

These items were discussed for possible inclusion on future EAC agendas:

- Composting program. Concerns regarding cost and staffing and whether the Community would get involved.
- Ms. Dorph gave short overview of a composting program.

### **CHAIR REPORT**

#### **EAC Chair – Cathy Magliocchetti**

Ms. Magliocchetti provided EAC status on the following topics:

- Chris Plummer, a resident who is an avid birder, with concern having to do with bird hits, flying into windows, etc.
- Mr. Plummer suggested the purchase of a Chimney Swift Tower by the Township. A Chimney Swift is an endangered bird species, and this is a 4x4x2 concrete slab with a “chimney-type” structure where the birds would build a nest. Volunteers would be needed to check on the nesting progression.

### **LIAISON REPORTS**

#### **Board of Supervisors – Ben Weldon**

Mr. Weldon provided Board of Supervisor status on the following topics:

- New Township Manager, Gregg Schuster attended the meeting.
- Sunoco In-Line inspection reports received from Energy Transfer.

#### **Planning and Zoning – Denise Burmester**

There was no P&Z Report.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Baldwin and seconded by Mr. Hale to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 p.m.

Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Denise Burmester

Director of Planning & Zoning

Approved: September 9, 2025