

Upper Makefield *Township*

Environmental Advisory Council Meeting

April 9, 2019 Meeting Minutes

The April 9, 2019 public meeting of the Upper Makefield Township Environmental Advisory Council was called to order by Chair Bud Baldwin at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were the following members of the Environmental Advisory Council: Chair Bud Baldwin, Vice Chair Keith Miller, Member Cathy Magliocchetti, Member Tim Thomas, Member Harry Barfoot, Member Nicole Kahn and Member Jack Wiseman. Also in attendance were Board of Supervisors Liaison, Diana Nolan and Planning and Zoning Liaison Denise Burmester.

Confirmation of Quorum: Mr. Baldwin confirmed quorum.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

A. February 12, 2019 and March 12, 2019:

A motion was made by Mr. Baldwin to approve the February 12, 2019 minutes with no amendments. The motion was seconded by Mr. Miller. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Baldwin to approve the March 12, 2019 minutes with no amendments. The motion was seconded by Mr. Thomas. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Discussion Items:

A. Spotted Lanternfly Presentation - Karoline Anderson of the US Dept. of Agriculture:

Mr. Baldwin introduced Ms. Karoline Anderson of USDA. Ms. Anderson presented the work that USDA and Penn State are partnering to survey the Spotted Lantern fly and educate the public of their efforts to eradicate the Spotted Lanternfly.

The following were topics covered by the presentation:

1. The Spotted Lanternfly originated from Southeastern Asia, arriving as eggs in construction materials.
2. Insects were presented in their different stages of life and their life span.
3. Insects are partial to the Tree of Heaven that is abundant in this area. The Tree of Heaven is the target of the USDA monitoring in our area, requesting access to properties in our Township to identify and inspect the Tree of Heaven and how the Spotted Lanternfly is attracted. There are 70 other tree species that can host the insect as well.
4. Tree of Heaven is being treated to eliminate the host with various methods including chemical applications. Ms. Anderson provided documentation on the chemical treatments being used. Trees are being marked to indicate what type of treatment will be performed.

Blue paint will indicate a herbicide which will kill the tree. Red paint will indicate an insecticide which will kill the insect.

5. Bucks County is currently one of 14 counties in Pennsylvania under quarantine for movement of wood in and out of the county to stop the spread of the insect. Unfortunately these insects can attach to many different items that may be moved in and out of the county to include vehicles and clothing. Product movement for businesses are asked to frequently clean vehicles and check anything being moved out of the county.
6. Property Owner notification is made on site when USDA finds a property that may contain the Spotted Lanternfly. USDA representatives will knock on the house door and will be wearing the USDA logo and usually have binoculars with them. Property Owners will be able to decide if they will grant approval to USDA to treat trees on their property.
7. Time line for insect lifespan and USDA identification and monitoring is May through the end of September.
8. The insect is causing catastrophic losses in agriculture here in Pennsylvania. USDA is working with the agriculture industry to treat the trees and insects.
9. Many brochures were provided for distribution to residents and businesses for education and Environmental Assessments are available from the USDA website.

The EAC members continued conversation about how to educate the Township residents about these efforts.

B. Watershed Riparian Restoration:

Mr. Baldwin noted that the focus of Watershed Restoration efforts are moving from Upper Jericho Creek to Lower Jericho Creek. Discussion included the following topics:

1. Ensuring that MS4 requirements are being satisfied.
2. How to engage property owners and how to prepare to engage them with preliminary designs for their properties. Would like to pursue costing estimates for designs for individual properties.
3. Identifying severe problems to include the culvert on Pineville Road and the pipe at Cedar Glenn. Discussed ways to engage PennDot in resolving these problems.

Mr. Baldwin asked for and received a consensus of the group to move the efforts to Lower Jericho Creek and notifying LandStudies. Mr. Baldwin will follow up to ensure efforts are redirected.

C. Earth Day Celebration Event, April 27, 2019, 11:00 to 2:00:

Mr. Baldwin opened the Earth Day Celebration Event discussion, reviewing the supplies needed for the day and determining how they will be sourced. Mr. Baldwin polled the members to determine who was attending.

The committee reviewed the brochures available for distribution at the event and decided on two brochures on Water Quality provided by Tri-State to support the MS4 education requirements. The bookmarks on water quality were also agreed upon for distribution. 200 of each handout should be prepared.

Liaison Report:

A. Board of Supervisors: Diana Nolan

- Congratulations on the Ordinances for Waste Management for stormwater and streams passed. Public notification through Newsletter and Herald were completed, would like to also notify HOAs and Landscapers. Further information could be provided by table tents at local businesses, door hangers and signs.

B. Park & Recreation: Cathy Magliocchetti

- Five of the Six Fields now have irrigation and this project is completed. The final field will not be irrigated because it is too far from the water source.

C. Planning & Zoning: Denise Burmester

- Nothing new to report.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

New Business:

A. Traffic Concerns:

Ms. Nolan raised concerns with traffic incidents at Mt. Eyre Road and how to partner with Lower Makefield for a traffic study.

B. Native Plants:

How are native plants defined? Members clarified that native plants are plants that existed pre-colonial.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Mr. Baldwin and seconded by Ms. Magliocchetti to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Approved: July 9, 2019