

# Upper Makefield *Township*

## Environmental Advisory Council Meeting

### January 14, 2020 Meeting Minutes

The January 14, 2020 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 Harry Barfoot, and Member Cathy Magliocchetti. Also in attendance were Board of Supervisors Liaison Ed Ford and Planning and Zoning Administrator Denise Burmester.

**Confirmation of Quorum:** Mr. Baldwin confirmed a quorum.

**Public Comment:** There was no public comment.

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

- A. November 12, 2019:** Mr. Baldwin confirmed that the Board will take up and submit the Green Region PECO Grant. A motion was made by Mr. Baldwin to approve the November 12, 2019 minutes with no amendments. The motion was seconded by Mr. Barfoot and carried with a 3 – 0 vote. Mr. Miller abstained since he was not at the November meeting.

#### **Discussion Items:**

##### **A. 2020 Reorganization:**

A motion was made that Mr. Baldwin remain Chair by Ms. Magliocchetti and was seconded by Mr. Barfoot. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

A motion was made for Keith Miller to remain Vice Chair by Mr. Baldwin and seconded by Ms. Magliocchetti. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

##### **B. Impervious Surface:**

Mr. Baldwin mentioned an advertisement by a company in Montgomery County for porous materials that will allow water to pass thru. EAC members discussed the use and effectiveness of such products. Ms. Burmester mentioned that Engineers consider these materials as impervious since rocks and other materials quickly fill in the pervious areas.

##### **C. Recycling:**

The EAC members discussed recycling including these two options:

- Responsible Recycling Services - would like the Township to host a recycling event for its residents. There are costs associated with items brought in to be recycled. Since it's not free the EAC does not recommend doing this.
- Vintage Tech - offers electronics recycling that is free. The EAC recommends posting Vintage Tech info on the Township website.

**D. Conservation Easement Inspections:**

The Board approved easement inspections are underway. Mr. Baldwin mentioned that his property's inspection was done in December 2019.

**E. Mosquito Control:**

Options were discussed for mosquito control:

- Home Depot sells Mosquito Dunks which you break in half and put in birdbaths. They are not expensive and seem to work well.
- Mosquito Joe on Sycamore Street in Newtown can be hired.
- Bat Houses can be used. Mr. Miller will contact Boy Scouts for their participation. Location for Bat Houses considered at Mt. Eyre and Mill Pond as well as Park & Rec areas.

EAC members voiced concern about the chemicals being used and also mentioned the hazard of other inserts, for example, ticks. Follow-up to understand any mosquito control efforts that may already be planned for the Township.

**F. Ready 100: Clean Renewable Energy for Bucks County – Solar Expert:**

The next meeting still needs to be scheduled.

**G. Fire Arms:**

Discussion regarding fire arms in public buildings and actions members are individually involved with the issue. Agreement that the EAC is not the correct committee to address this issue or make recommendations.

**Liaison Report:**

**A. Board of Supervisors – Ed Ford:**

Mr. Ford asked if there any openings on the EAC:

- Mr. Tim Thomas' position is now vacant since his election to the BOS.
- Mr. Ford pointed out that openings should be advertised before positions are filled.
- BOS would like recommendations for the new member from the EAC.
- An Upper Makefield Resident, an environmental engineer, expressed interest in becoming a member. Her application is in process for consideration.

Mr. Ford gave a synopsis of the recent BOS openings filled by Mr. Tim Thomas (elected) and Ms. Karin Traina (chosen by the Board due to her years of service on the Planning Commission).

Mr. Ford reported the following items:

- Melsky Subdivision has been denied.
- Prime Development Zoning Hearing Board Application - BOS took a neutral position on this request.
- Washington Crossing National Cemetery has renovations in progress.

**B. Park & Recreation - Cathy Magliocchetti:**

Ms. Magliocchetti reported that the Park & Rec reorganized and Mr. Bill Holcombe is the new Chair.

**C. Planning & Zoning - Denise Burmester:**

Ms. Burmester reported the following:

- Township building renovations are underway and includes the conversion to LED lighting.
- Community Rating System recertification is in process and more attention will be turned to the Program for Public Information. The EAC will be the first template user.
- Beginning of the year letters were sent to all Realtors asking them for sign permits. A flyer on the CRS that they can share with their buyers, was also included in the mailing.
- February Agenda will include Earth Day.
- Information on a workshop by the Audubon Society was presented. Mr. Barfoot, Ms. Magliocchetti, and Mr. Baldwin expressed interest in attending.
- Council Rock School District, Sol Feinstone Elementary ZHB meeting is February 3, 2020 and BOS to review January 21, 2020. Letters were sent to all residents within 500 feet to let them know about the meetings. Council Rock School District will also have a meeting with the parents to advise them of the proposed renovations.

**Additional discussion:**

- Serious storms and flooding this winter require conversations about stream restoration to recommence. EAC requested an update on this project.
- Discussion of restoring the volunteer dinner and volunteer recognition.

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Mr. Miller and seconded by Ms. Magliocchetti to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

**Approved:** February 11, 2020