

Upper Makefield *Township*

Environmental Advisory Council Meeting

September 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes

The September 14, 2021 public meeting of the Upper Makefield Township Environmental Advisory Council was called to order by Chair Bud Baldwin at 7:13 p.m. In attendance were the following members of the Environmental Advisory Council: Chair Bud Baldwin, Member Harry Barfoot, Member Kathryn Benson, Member Nicole Khan, and Member Keith Miller. Presenters Mr. Marziani, Mr. Decker, and Mr. Campbell were in attendance. Also, in attendance was Planning and Zoning Administrator Denise Burmester.

Confirmation of Quorum: Quorum was not confirmed by Mr. Baldwin until the Domenic Marziani – Riparian Grant discussion item.

Public Comment: None

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

- A. **August 10, 2021:** Quorum was not confirmed for approval of the meeting minutes. To be approved at the October meeting.

Discussion Items:

A. **Domenic Marziani – Riparian Grant:**

EAC members engaged in a discussion with Mr. Marziani, property owner of tax parcel 47-004-026 on Thompson Mill Road. Mr. Marziani requested review of the property for consideration of a Riparian Grant to restore the culvert access to the property. The property's access is dependent on culvert access over a tributary of Jericho Creek. The lot beyond the culvert is not developed. Mr. Marziani led the EAC through the property with the maps and pictures that he provided.

The following are comments and questions of the EAC members:

- EAC members questioned if the property would qualify for riparian grant because a single-family dwelling was not yet located on the property. Mr. Marziani responded that his intent is to develop the property with a single-

family dwelling upon resolution of the culverts that had fallen into disrepair due to the shifting of the stream path.

- EAC discussed the possibility that the LandStudies analysis may have identified the area where this property is located in an area that the study recommended as initial target for the repair.
- EAC recommended that Mr. Marziani prepare a Land Development application which would allow for a review process that would allow the analysis to clarify the requirements such as the following:
 - LandStudies recommendations.
 - FEMA mapping and analysis.
 - Floodplain development BMPs.
 - Other State and County agency requirements.

B. Mt. Eyre - Berm Maintenance Review: Mr. Baldwin delayed the discussion until the October meeting to allow the attendance of the Township Engineer.

C. Holly Pond Farm - Plan for Reforestation and Buffer Restoration:

Mr. Baldwin introduced the subject and noted that the Board of Supervisors requested that the EAC prepare a detailed planting plan for the property. He then directed the discussion to the environmental needs of the property.

Mr. Decker, a neighbor to the property noted the following:

- The property owner is not present on the property.
- The pastures consist of dirt and not consistently maintained.
- That horses may be defecating into the nearby stream.
- Septic issues continue that do not allow for the habitation of the property dwelling.
- Fly trap maintenance was not kept up with producing a fly problem for the neighborhood.
- Too many horses for the property size.
- The riding areas are not watered down as agreed upon, producing dust to the neighborhood.

Mr. Baldwin directed responses and concerns of the EAC are to be environmental in nature and discussed the following:

- EAC members agreed that pasture maintenance is a concern, citing that the PA regulations do require vegetation grown height requirements for pastures.

- EAC members did share a concern of illicit discharge into the Pidcock creek tributary.
- EAC recommended the neighbors might file reports to the State and County Departments of Environmental Protection.

Mr. Barfoot made a motion that the EAC will provide a statement to the Board of Supervisors with what actions the EAC has already taken and with recommendations for the property, so the Board of Supervisor can determine the actions for the property. Mr. Baldwin seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Mr. Barfoot made a motion to walk the Holly Pond Farm property to determine the details of the tree species and locations of specific species on the property. Mr. Baldwin seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Liaison Reports:

A. Planning and Zoning – Denise Burmester:

There has been more work done on the Community Rating System recertification. Hoping for October as a recertification date.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Mr. Miller and seconded by Mr. Barfoot to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Approved: October 12, 2021