

Environmental Advisory Council Meeting – February 26, 2024

0. Attendance – Present: Avinh Li, Mianna Li, Erin McCool, John Zollers, Terri Neufeglise, Gary Neights, Paul Donnelly, Madison Roeger, Laura Winslow, Graff Eggers.

1. Approval of Minutes. Ms. Winslow made a motion, seconded by Ms. Neufeglise, to approve the minutes from the last meeting which passed 4-0.

2. Old Business.

a. Subcommittee Reports

1. Education / Communication: No updates
2. Stormwater: No updates
3. Built infrastructure: No updates
4. Bird Town: Mr. Zollers updated the Council on a native plant sale / swap coming in the spring on April 28 to be held at the pavilion at Eagleville Park. Time of day and other details still being worked out.
5. Green Energy: Ms. McCool and Mr. Donnelly informed the Council of modifications to the sustainability resolution in progress.

b. Journeywork – Mr. Zollers will lead the effort to set up a native plant planting program in Lower Providence model after Journeywork, request promotional materials, and see about setting up a test plot on township land.

3. New Business.

i. Mr. Donnelly updated the Council on several ongoing matters:

- Zoning code consolidation / organization process is still ongoing preparatory to consideration of changes to the code.
- Bird town signs have been set on Parklane Drive, at the John James Audubon Center, Hoy Park, and Eskie Park. Three have been held back, one for use at events, and one possibly targeted for the intersection of Ridge Pike and Park Avenue (requires coordination with PennDOT).
- The March 7 Board of Supervisors meeting will include a workshop discussing the Lower Providence campus master plan.
- Township staff are working with the organization EPIC to finish township stormwater pipe mapping (approximately 85% complete previously, with the goal completing the last 15%). This process is just beginning.

ii. Ms. McCool presented her vision for the next few months and would like the Council to transition from an experimentation phase to a more goal-oriented approach focused on specific projects and bringing them to fruition. The Council performed a workshop process based on three goals / concepts: Stormwater, an Earth Day event, and a Journeywork-style native plant program.

- Ms. Winslow noted Representative Joe Webster recently announced the initiation of the Perkiomen Watershed Initiative and recommended the Council write to his office in order

to become more directly involved in the Initiative. Ms. McCool asked Ms. Winslow to ask the representative's office to have the project manager of the Perkiomen Watershed project present on the program to the Council.

4. Comments and Other Business.

- Earth Day event at Mill Grove: Ms. Winslow reminded the Council that it was determined at the January 2024 meeting that the Council would set up a table at this event. Ms. Winslow obtained approximately 25 trees from the Keystone program and could purchase 25 more for \$250. Mr. Zollers offered to bring the stream table as long as an assistant is available to help with setup and takedown.

- Ms. Neufeglise announced her resignation from the Council having recently been appointed to fill a vacancy on the Township Board of Supervisors.

5. Courtesy of the Floor. No speakers.

6. Adjournment. The meeting was unanimously adjourned.