

Minutes of Lower Providence Environmental Advisory Council Meeting – June 20, 2022

The meeting began at 6:00 PM. Council members Erin McCool, Joseph Lulis, Douglas White, John Zollers, Irene Bijou, and Madison Roeger were present.

1. Approval of Minutes. Mr. White made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2022 EAC meeting, seconded by Mr. Lulis. Motion passed 4-0.

2. **Old Business**

2a. Subcommittee Reports.

Education / Community Engagement

Ms. Roeger noted ongoing efforts to recruit volunteers. Ms. McCool noted that Fall Fest is coming up and asked Council members to think about possible events and activities the Council could support.

Stormwater

E.J. Mentry passed message along that education for residents is an important need. Discussion ensued about resources for residents regarding flooding help, including possibility of helping residents connect with neighbors who could help.

A possible event targeted for September was discussed including the following elements:

- Long-range vs short-range prevention and impact
- “Kiss the Ground” movie on regenerative agriculture and effects on stormwater
- Various yard soil improvement techniques
- A resident in attendance noted the difficulty of coping with the vast amount of information and misinformation which exists on stormwater and yard improvement topics
- A “better yard” tour including stops at Mr. Lulis’ and Mr. Zollers’ houses and Martha’s Gardens community garden.

The possibility of an EAC Instagram account was also raised again, and Ms. Roeger noted that she is drafting flyers to promote the EAC that will be circulated among the EAC for review.

Built Infrastructure

A brief discussion was held about the Google Earth KMZ file Mr. Zollers circulated among the EAC noting locations of easily and inexpensively implemented improvements for walkability in the township.

A brief discussion of Brightview Landscaping’s proposed solar panel installation clarified that solar panels are proposed on a canopy over a parking area. A presentation to the EAC by Brightview representatives is being sought.

Green Energy

Mr. White noted that the electric car event at Ursinus could have been better advertised, and noted that the township energy audit would be looking at street lights that can be converted to LED bulbs.

2b. Comprehensive Plan Update. No updates.

3. New Business

3a. Three candidates have submitted documents of interest towards the opening on the EAC. Extensive discussion of various ideas for handling the existing vacancy ensued, including the possibility of expanding the EAC to seven members to account for the interested parties, inviting the candidates to a future meeting to discuss their interest. It was decided to table discussion until the Board of Supervisors could vote on expanding the EAC.

3b, 3c, 3d were all tabled.

4. Comments and other Business

Ms. McCool noted that the Fishing Derby at Hoy Park went smoothly and was a great day.

Ms. McCool noted that Penn Environment had reached out about presenting to the EAC about a plastic bag ordinance. Mr. Roeger began a discussion about sustainable packaging by recounting her recent experience with reusable Wawa bags in Ocean City, NJ. Further discussion about ways to encourage township businesses to utilize sustainable (biodegradable, reusable) packing materials.

A suggestion was made to invite a member of the local SBA to contribute to EAC meetings.

Mr. Lulis made a motion to modify the start time of future EAC meetings to 7:00, which was seconded by Mr. White and passed 4-0. The change in start time is intended to make attendance more convenient around work and family schedules.

Ms. Bijou noted that July will be her last meeting with the EAC.

5. Courtesy of the Floor

No comments.

6. Adjournment

Mr. Lulis made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Zollers. Motion passed 4-0.

