

**LOWER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
October 18, 2021 – 6:00pm**

Call to Order: Chairman Duffy called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

The following members were in attendance: Chairman Patrick Duffy, EAC Members Joseph Lulis, Erin McCool and John Zollers. Also in attendance was Colleen Eckman, Board of Supervisors Liaison. Leah Baird was absent.

1. Approval of Minutes for September 20, 2021 EAC Meeting

Ms. McCool requested that a notation that during courtesy of the floor, there was discussion about having the EAC meetings conducted via zoom was held. With this addition, there was a Motion by Ms. McCool to approve the minutes which was seconded by Mr. Zollers. The Motion carried 4-0

2. New/Old Business

Storm Water Update:

Mr. Duffy noted that he has received executive summaries from Ms. Baird and Mr. Lulis as to their investigations and will utilize those summaries and the discussions from the September EAC meeting to provide an update at an upcoming Board of Supervisors meeting.

Ms. Eckman noted that the Township has received some funding from the federal government under the American Rescue Act. The Township is awaiting formal regulations from the government on how the money can be spent so they can formulate a plan but it is anticipated money can be used for Stormwater improvements.

Ms. McCool noted that she provided information to Denise Walsh to put together a Fact Sheet.

Fall Fest Wrap up discussion

A summary of the EAC participation at the Township Fall Fest was given by Mr. Duffy. It was noted that the EAC could benefit from a Banner and the members could use shirts so that the EAC is more readily identifiable by residents. Mr. Zollers noted that in the future, a power source would be helpful to run various demonstrative exhibits.

Youth Programming:

A discussion was held concerning the possibility of the EAC developing programming for young residents. The consensus was to identify holes in areas not already covered by other groups or organizations. The members were going to take some time to think about various possibilities and bring back ideas at the November meeting.

3. Comments and other Business

Ms. McCool raised the issue of zoom and/or hybrid meetings for the EAC. Supervisor Eckman advised that Township counsel has issued an opinion to the Township that all meetings of the Township's Boards and Commissions must be physically open to the public under the State's Sunshine Law now that the State of Emergency is no longer operative in Pennsylvania.

Mr. Zollers raised the issue of salt runoff from parking lots and roads during the winter season. It was discussed putting together a fact sheet and to present it to the LP Business Association.

Ms. Baird sent a note that the interviews of potential student rep candidates were held by the subcommittee. A Motion was made by Mr. Lulis to recommend to the BOS that the EAC recommend Charlie Yang and Irene Biju as student reps. The Motion was seconded by Ms. McCool. The Motion carried 4-0

Ms. McCool noted that she was going to meet with Straud Water Research regarding fresh water monitoring of the Perkiomen Watershed. She invited any EAC members to join her.

Ms. Eckman advised that FEMA has developed a program to purchase properties severely damaged by Hurricane Ida. The Township is working with FEMA and the State to get the information to the affected property owners.

4. Courtesy of the Floor

Doug White spoke about the Township's Sustainability Ordinance and urging that the Township look at the Sierra Club's model resolution for renewable energy and Ready for 100 resolutions. He suggested the Township conduct an energy audit as a first step.

5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned.