



UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP

175 W. Valley Forge Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406-1802

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Board meeting minutes

April 10th, 2024

Meeting was called to order at 6:50 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance:

In Person: Zachary Davis, Rose Grosso, Mark Vondra, Theresa Landewe, Vicki Meitus

Zoom: Carole Kenney, Louise Willis, Kabindra Shakya

Absent: Jocelyn Bilker, Joel Miner

Meeting Minutes from March 13th, Louise made a motion to approve and Theresa seconded. All approved.

Comments from Chairperson: none

Reports and Discussions

1. Plastic Pollution Reduction Ordinance Updates: Will try to get consistency with the charging of bags especially with fast food services. Working on list of what utensils will be appropriate come July. Louise has put together displays in the Atrium Display cases with recycle information, compostable items, etc.
2. Rain Garden Updates
 - Saturday, April 27th Planting Scheduled-still on schedule to plant on April 27th, plant order on schedule, sign for the rain garden being ordered. Members of EAC will contact local groups in order to get more volunteers for the event.
3. 2024 BCA Grant Application: Applied for a grant on Sustainable Lawns Program throughout the township. Partnered with Shade Tree Commission and Farmer's Market.
4. Joint BoS Meeting – April 18th at 7 pm in the Board Room. Everyone on the committee is invited. EAC is second on the schedule. Zach reviewed his presentation.
5. Earth Day Festival – April 20th from 11a-2p Will have handouts, bags, etc.
6. Artificial Turf Memo Discussion: Zach has put together a memo to the Board Of Supervisors: Outlining the Dangers of Synthetic Grass and Artificial Turf Pose to the Community. Reviewed and discussed.
7. Wastewater Treatment Facility: Carole Kenney, Kabrinda Shakaya and Zachary Davis went to meeting at Villanova on March 18th to learn more about the Phoenixville Wastewater Treatment Plant.
8. Comprehensive plan: Zach went to meeting on March 28th. Talked re: Demographics of Upper Merion and building stock. Looking into future areas that can be made into walkable



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communities and how to keep the township 'healthy'. Missing affordable housing due to land in Upper Merion being so valuable.

9. Shade Tree Bamboo/Invasive Plants Ordinance: Theresa reported Shade Tree Commission is meeting April 22nd at 7:00 PM to work on lists of invasive species. Theresa would also like to generate a list of Native Species. PA Department of Natural resources has an extensive list available.
10. Letter of Support for Community Solar Bill in PA House and Senate: Tabled till next month

New Business

11. Springfield Township Case Study – Police Hybrids and Energy Audits: Over the past several years, Springfield Township did energy audits of all their buildings and car use. This resulted in massive reduction in electric and gas use and cost. Went to hybrids and even though upfront cost was more expensive they started paying for themselves after a year. That Township has already avoided 253,244 pounds of CO2 emission.

Public Comment: no comments

Board Liason: no comments

Adjournment: Mark moved to adjourn the meeting and Theresa seconded at 9:01 pm and all in favor.

Submitted by: V. Meitus

Approved by: Zachary Davis

Date: 08 May 2024

Signature: [Handwritten Signature]