



# UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP

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

## ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Upper Merion Township Building  
175 W. Valley Forge Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406

Minutes June 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Meeting Called to Order at 6:35 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

### Attendance:

**In Person:** Zachary Davis, Kabindra Shakya, Vicki Meitus, Rose Grosso, Theresa Landewe, Carole Kenney, Jaque Camp, Mark Vondra

**Zoom:** Louise Willis

**Not Present:** Jocelyn Bilker

Approval of May Meeting Minutes: Teresa motioned to approve, Vicki seconded, all approved

### Reports and Discussions

1. Meeting Schedule for 2024: discussed changing date of meeting to 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month for at least the next few months.  
Next Meetings: July 17<sup>th</sup>, August 21<sup>st</sup>, September 18<sup>th</sup>
2. Plastic Pollution Reduction Ordinance Updates: Zach spoke with Don about what products are acceptable and which are not. This information will be available on the website and will be updated as needed. Noted some bags labeled backyard compostable but not sure if these really are, i.e. PLA or CPLA. Some Farmers Market bags are not acceptable as they have handles and/or also blown film extrusion process.
3. Recap from Parking Presentation: Discussed supporting and sending a message to the Township Supervisors at large about reducing requirements for required parking. Support adding bike racks. Jaque mentioned some of situations in NJ where parking regulations indicated much more parking was required for locations such as affordable housing for seniors where typically not everyone has a car. Zach will send out a letter of support for reducing requirements for parking. Zach recommended book: Paved Paradise by Henry Grabar.
4. Comprehensive Plan: Next meeting is next Thursday on land use existing conditions. All are invited.
5. Sustainable Lawns BCA grant: Theresa and Barley had a call with West Vincent township and WV shared what they did for their sustainable lawn projects. Grant will enable EAC to develop Education materials for healthy yard starter kits. Kit will include plugs. Will look into sharing these at the Fall fest in October at the Heuser Park.
6. Artificial Turf Discussion: EAC has recommended not to use in the future in Township. Discussion ongoing for other boards.
7. Quick Updates and Recaps
  - i. Rain Garden: sign has been shipped, post is already here.
  - ii. Wastewater Treatment Facility: no update
  - iii. Invasive Plant Ordinance: List is in process to update to share information on current invasive plants, etc.



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iv. Community Solar Support Letter: tabled

New Business:

8. Township Goals and Objectives: Next Meeting is July 17<sup>th</sup>.

Some suggestions to look into:

- a. Electrification-buildings, infrastructure, fleet
- b. Parking reform, possibly changing municipal requirements
- c. Transportation: safer transportation (walkability, bike-ability, Rambler improvement, etc.)
- d. More proactive native plant requirements in developments, look into what areas have non native.
- e. Expanding citizen boards-associate members
- f. Increasing accessibility to information (EAC and other boards)
- g. Sustainable development of Heuser II. Carole asked to give ideas since Heuser is a clean slate right now.
- h. Additional topics: Jacque brought up there is great information that is discussed at EAC meetings and need to see how to share more of this information to the community at large. Some information is available in the township building but there may be other avenues to share information. Ideas would be low flow toilets, native plants, etc. Carole brought up ways to expand information via newsletter. Mark suggested come up with possibly 2 ideas for environmental tips each month, possibly recycle some past ideas. How to communicate more environmental information?

9. Earth Day: look into have more options available for people to learn more about environment.

10. Public Comment: none

11. Board Liason: None

12. Adjournment: Mark moved to adjourn meeting and seconded by Vicki, approved by all and meeting adjourned at 9:14 PM

Submitted by V. Meitus, Secretary

Approved by: Zachary Davis

Date: 17-July-2024

Signature: [Handwritten Signature]