

SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 28th, 2019

PRESENT: Eric Allen (Chair), Tamara Lesh (Vice Chair), Hope Blaythorne, Barry Fetterolf and Christine Terranova (Administrator).

VIA CONFERENCE CALLS: Christy Cheever and Kevin Morrissey (Liaison)

ABSENT: Deirdre Alderfer and David Benner

I. OPENING OF MEETING

Chair Allen called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 8th, 2019

Upon a Motion by Barry Fetterolf, seconded by Hope Blaythorne, the meeting minutes for January 8th, 2019 were unanimously approved.

III. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Terranova announced that the time for the March 12th EAC meeting would begin at 7:30 p.m. rather than 7:00 p.m. due to the Land Preservation Forum.

Chair Allen attended the Audubon Society meeting last Tuesday, February 19th, and shared a brief rundown on what was presented at the meeting. He added that Diane Smith, member of the Buckingham EAC, has invited Solebury EAC members along with Friends of the Delaware Canal to help with a cleanup in Phillips Mill scheduled to take place on Saturday, April 6th.

IV. NEW BUSINESS -- None

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Deer Management (Eric Allen)

Supervisor Mark Baum-Baicker will be meeting with the Game Commission on March 1st. There have been conflicting issues within the township (Carversville area) concerning the deer management program.

Ms. Blaythorne commented that the deer are looking unhealthy. It was also noted that people are seeing large herds throughout the township. Mr. Allen responded to The Herald with a letter to support the hunting program within the township.

The Deer Management Committee will continue to promote property owners to sign up their properties for deer hunting.

Recycling (Christy Cheever, Tamara Lesh and Deirdre Alderfer)

Chair Allen appointed Christy Cheever as the lead person in charge of recycling.

Mr. Morrissey stated that the Board of Supervisors is requesting for the EAC to review current Township recycling practices and make additional proposals of improvements to the practices. He is suggesting the following should be included:

- Review of current Township, school and community recycling practices
- Comparison with other communities
- Investigation of new recycling options
- Become a significant participant in recycling community discussion
- Determine whether designated recycling materials is recycled utilizing existing methods.
- Proposal forwarded to the Board of Supervisors and Township Solicitor for review

Recycle Forum

Mr. Morrissey explained the concept for a recycling forum and what the council should expect to accomplish. It was suggested to invite business services to the forum to speak about their service regarding recycling. The main objective is to educate and encourage the public to recycle.

Chair Allen chose to take the lead in putting together the forum and have a public meeting to discuss what we are doing currently and what we can do for the future, and agree to define the issues and participants.

Possible dates for the Recycle Forum were suggested to be June 4th or June 11th.

Vice Chair Lesh suggested having Waste Management or another local trash hauler company to be a part of the presentation to talk about recycling.

Mr. Morrissey and Ms. Cheever will brainstorm on the possibilities and keep EAC informed how the presentation is progressing. It was felt the Township Manager and Assistant Township Manager should be invited to the meetings too.

Vice Chair Lesh suggested distributing the recycling ordinance to all the trash haulers within the township.

Banning of Plastic and Plastic Usages

Chair Allen stated that Township Solicitor Jordan Yeager will attend the next EAC meeting to discuss the process in developing a proposal for plastics regulations in Solebury Township, making improvements as the process develops. Chair Allen asked Tamara Lesh to be the liaison for heading the task of working on this proposal.

Mr. Morrissey discussed a draft set of project steps for plastic regulations as follows:

- Define an outline
- Determine the goal of such regulation
- Define the specific elements to be regulated
- Define participant category to be regulated
- Define exceptions of participants, materials and functions
- Meet with the Township Solicitor to discuss legal issues relating to the proposed plastic regulations
- EAC to develop proposal, send proposal to Board of Supervisors for review and discussion, and BoS will provide feedback to EAC for their response.
- Suggested that EAC meet with a significant representative of Solebury businesses to obtain feedback and emphasis will be placed upon there being at least a voluntary period for the community to adjust to the regulations.
- Plastic regulation document determined if editing is necessary from feedback provided from business owners discussions
- Document will be finalized and voted upon in a public meeting as a voluntary set of guidelines
- Initially, plastic regulation will be implemented in the Township as voluntary guidelines
- EAC will implement a field survey to determine adherence to voluntary guidelines
- Lastly, the Board of Supervisors/Township will determine whether the plastic regulations should remain as guidelines or implemented as an ordinance

Aquetong Spring Park (Barry Fetterolf and Kevin Morrissey)

It was noted that the Township is planning to hire someone to take down the 1,300 ash trees in the park that are dead and need to be removed prior to doing any further development. It still needs to be determined how to protect and preserve the stream properly. There have been many conflicting opinions on development of the park.

Cleanup Day Program

Ms. Blaythorne announced the following dates should be noted:

- Earth Day is Monday, April 22nd
- Friends of the Canal Cleanup Day is Saturday, April 6th
- Aquetong Watershed Cleanup Day is Saturday, April 13th
- Bill Tinsman/Lumberville Cleanup Day is unknown

Wild Area Stewardship

It was noted that Jade Green has been appointed as Chair of the Aquetong Watershed Committee.

DEP is giving a tour of the New Hope Quarry on March 28th.

A. Watershed Management -- **to be removed from future agendas**

B. Green Building Credits – **to be removed from future agendas**

VI. Public Comment – No discussion

VII. Adjournment

Upon a Motion by Barry Fetterolf, seconded by Hope Blaythorne, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Terranova
EAC Administrator